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Volume 71, Issue 40 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Thursday, April 2, 2026

House fire in Plainwell results in one fatality

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

A residential fire in Plainwell on Saturday evening resulted in one fatality, according to officials with the Plainwell Department of Public Safety.

The victim was later identified as 58-year-old Ted Ray Hughes, Jr.

The fire was reported at approximately 8:25 p.m. March 28, in the 400 block of North Main Street after an off-duty firefighter with the Martin Fire Department observed smoke and flames coming from a residence and radioed the information to dispatch.

A Plainwell Department of Public Safety officer arrived on scene within seconds, according to Director of Public Safety Kevin Callahan, and reported heavy black smoke coming from the front of the home. Visible fire in multiple rooms on the north side of the structure were also reported.

Due to the severity of the fire, mutual aid was requested from the Gun Plain Fire Department, Martin Township Fire Department and Otsego Fire Department.

Within approximately two minutes, a fire attack crew entered the residence to begin suppression efforts. Firefighters encountered heavy smoke conditions throughout the home, with a rear bedroom and its contents fully involved in flames.

Officials were continuing their investigation into a house fire at 414 N. Main St. in Plainwell that claimed the life of 58-year-old Ted Ray Hughes, Jr. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

After several minutes on scene, firefighters received information indicating a possible victim inside the residence. A second crew entered the home under heavy smoke and fire conditions and located Hughes.

Hughes was removed from the structure and transferred to a waiting ambulance, where the individual was pronounced deceased at the scene.

Firefighters were able to extinguish the fire and secure the scene. No other injuries were reported.

Agencies assisting at the scene included the Gun Plain Fire Department, Otsego Fire Department, Martin Township Fire Department, Life EMS, Plainwell EMS, Michigan State Police Wayland Post, Otsego Police Department, the Michigan State Police Fire Investigation Unit and Allegan County Central Dispatch.

The fire remains under investigation by the Plainwell Department of Public Safety and the Michigan State Police Fire Investigation Unit.

Anyone with information is asked to contact the Plainwell Department of Public Safety at (269) 685-9858 or Allegan County Central Dispatch at (269) 673-3899.

Saturday's incident marks the fourth residential fire in Plainwell since December.

Previous fires occurred in the 100 block of South Sherwood Avenue in December, the 400 block of South Main Street in early March and the 900 block of Second Division Street later that same month, according to Callahan.

Those fires promptly Callahan to release a public service announcement on March 4, reminding Plainwell residents of the importance of working smoke detectors and basic fire safety equipment.

Author visit brings stories to life at Starr Elementary

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Students at Starr Elementary School had a special opportunity to meet a local author and learn about the creative process behind their favorite books.

Denise Brennan-Nelson visited the school recently, sharing her experiences as a writer and giving students a behind-the-scenes look at how books are created.

Brennan-Nelson, who grew up on a farm in Michigan, has written 27 children's books. During her visit, she talked with students about the writing and illustration process and read from one of her works, *Buzzy the Bumblebee*.

The visit gave students a chance to see how stories come to life, from the initial idea to the finished book.

According to her website, Brennan-Nelson has long been drawn to storytelling, saying she once dreamed of becoming a detective or reporter—someone who could "dig for the truth" and ask questions to better understand the world.

"As a writer, that's what I do," she said. "I ask a lot of questions, research my topics and use all of my senses to shape stories."

Students also learned about the different roles involved in creating a book, including writing, illustrating and publishing.

School officials said the visit was both educational and inspiring for students.

"We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Brennan-Nelson for dedicating her time to create this unforgettable experience for the Rock Starr students," the district said in a statement.

The event was made possible with the help of the Starr Parent's Club and Kazoo Books.

Author Denise Brennan-Nelson shows off some illustrations from one of her books. (Photo provided)

Author Denise Brennan-Nelson interacts with some Starr Elementary students.

Starr teachers take part in the author visit at the school.

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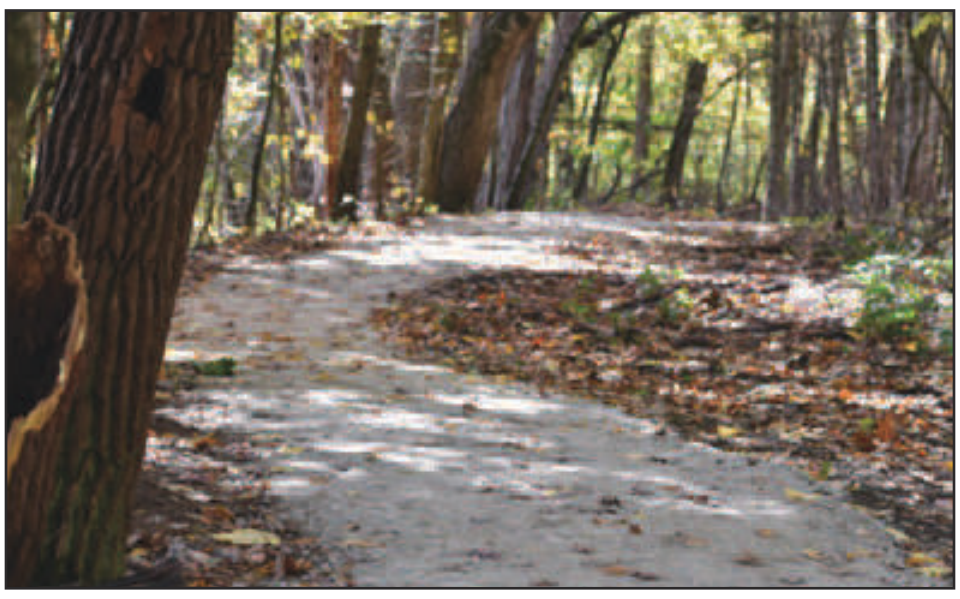
Easter Egg Hunt, conservation workshop highlight weekend

The weekend of March 28, 2026, not only included an Arts & Music Festival and a No Kings Protest in Allegan, but opportunities for people to think spring and get out-of-doors.

Across town at Jaycee Park, the grassy area was littered with hundreds upon hundreds of eggs of all colors. They were ready for the Annual Jaycee Easter Egg Eggstravaganza. Hundreds of children, ages 0-12, lined up along the Dog Park fence to the restrooms waiting for the signal to be given. The youngest group went first. Once they had cleared their area, the middle agers were released then the oldest group. Within a matter of 20 minutes, the once colorful, egg strewn lawn was free from eggs and returned to its springtime color. The Jaycees is an organization for anyone age 18-40. To learn more about membership, to https://alleganjaycees.com/.



Sat., Mar. 28, 2026, from 2-4pm, the Southwest Michigan Land Conservancy held a workshop at the Armintrout-Milbocker Nature Preserve at the end of Thomas Street. Participants could bring a notebook and learn the basics of Nature Journaling - sitting, observing, and recording the beauties of nature. Photo: courtesy of SWMLC

At the Allegan District Library, the Allegan County Food Alliance held their annual Seed Fair. Those in attendance could pick up free vegetable and flower seeds. Workshops were held to assist new gardeners with the basics and expert gardeners with enhancements to their established gardens. While parents and grandparents "shopped", the children could create pictures using seeds. For those who may have missed Saturday's event, a request for free seeds can be made at https://alleganfoodalliance.org/. To become involved with this grassroots organization, speak with Mary Colborn.

Art in the Garden set for April 18

The Allegan Area Arts Council is proud to present its 16th Annual Art in the Garden fundraiser, which will be held on April 18, 2026 at the Silo, 1071 M-40 South, in Allegan, from 10:00-4:00. Proceeds from this free, fun-filled, family-centered event will fund art camp scholarships for Allegan County students grades 8-11. This year's logo is based on a design by Credence Miling, a 2025 AAAC Summer Art Camp participant.

The Art in the Garden theme this year is "A Bouquet of Arts". We have a full house of vendors and artists for our always exciting Artists Market. For your shopping pleasure, there will be live music throughout the day by Iron Bridge Strings, with our featured band Whiskey & Wine taking the stage at 1:30.

From 10:00-3:30 the Creative Corner has free make-and-take activities for the young and young at heart! There is an activity for everyone--from creating a mini fairy/dino/gnome garden with real plants--to sculpting--to creating a piece of art based on the artist's name. Activities are ongoing! Plan to attend Story Time at 10:30 and Instrument Petting Zoo from 2:00-3:00.

At 10:30, members of the poetry group North will be reading Ekphrastic poems created in response to prints and paintings supplied by local artists. The poems, prints/paintings, and other pieces of art will be featured in the Silent Auction Area.

Workshops will be taking place on the lower level of the Silo. Advance tickets are available at Something Sweet for You and The Bear & Fox Den. Make a Bloomin' Beautiful Crochet Necklace with Drew Emborsky, aka The Crochet Dude; participants will learn how to create dimensional crochet flowers and will leave the class with a finished or nearly finished piece of wearable art. All supplies will be provided. Basic crochet skills (chain, single crochet and double crochet) are recommended.

The Art of Miniature Moss Gardening workshop begins with a brief discussion of moss and Japanese miniature gardening. Attendees will create their own miniature living moss garden. Moss, containers and stones will be provided. However, participants are encouraged to bring their own meaningful rocks or tokens for embellishment.

10:00-4:00 Shop Artist and Vendor Booths

10:00-3:30 Participate in the Creative Corner, designed for children but fun for all ages!

10:30-11:00 Art activity and book reading, Benford Draws a Blank, read by Carol Doeringer, Creative Corner

10:30: 11:00 Poetry Reading by the writing group North

11:00-1:00 Enjoy music by Iron Bridge Strings

11:00-12:30 Bloomin' Beautiful Crochet Necklace Workshop, Drew Emborsky

1:00-2:00 Art of Miniature Moss Gardening Workshop, Pete Savage

1:30-3:30 Enjoy live music with Whiskey & Wine as the day winds down

2:00-3:00 Instrument Petting Zoo with musician Nancy Snyder, Creative Corner

3:30-4:00 Silent Auction winners announced

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The Allegan County News

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The Grand Valley University Trumpet Ensemble performed "Midsummer Night's Dream" during the Allegan High School Symphonic Band performance. Photo: G. Voss

The Great Lakes Cloggers from Jackson, MI performed in Artist Hall then invited audience members to join the fun and learn the basic clogging steps. Photo: G. Voss

Allegan Arts Festival brings talent from across the Midwest

By Gari Voss

The halls of Allegan High School were filled with vendors selling all kinds of arts and crafts, the main stage held performances featuring instrumental and dance performances, Artist Hall held additional talent, the gym held demonstrations by Native Dancers, and a Petting Zoo allowed individuals to not only look at but try playing favorite acoustic instruments. All the while, musicians and even some cloggers came to join the easy or more advanced Jam Sessions. It was the Third Annual Allegan Folklife Music & Art Festival, Saturday, March 28, 2026.

In the auditorium, the day began with the Allegan High School Symphonic Band that featured their own percussion duet, brass trio, and pianist. The acclaimed Grand Valley State Trumpet Ensemble performed "Midsummer Night's Dream", and Dr. Alex Wilson was featured in "The Maid of the Mist". Other Main Stage offerings included Serita Rose, Scoil Rince Ni Bhraonain Dance School Irish Dancing, The Great Lakes Brass Band, the Whateverly Brothers, and the final concert by The Whistle Pigs Brass Band from Indiana.

Additional entertainment could be found in "Artists Hall" where the Original Dulcimer Club of Kalamazoo shared their music, the Great Lakes Cloggers of Jackson danced then taught clogging, and Rene Meave added vocals and guitar.

Around the school, Native American Tribal Dance was demonstrated in the gym, the Instrument Petting Zoo gathered in the Conference Center, and Rene Meave offered a workshop in the Choir Room.

The Folklife Music Festival can offer this free-entry gathering thanks to the generosity of the Michigan Arts & Culture Council and the Allegan County Community Foundation, plus local support from the Allegan Public Schools, Knucklebusters Garage, Wilcox News, Broken Arrow Recycling & Disposal, the City of Allegan, and all of the talented vendors who display and sell their wonderful wares.

Special thanks were given to Leah Ward of the K'Zoo Folklife, Allegan Chapter whose leadership gathers the talent and to the Great Lakes Acoustic Music Association (GLAMA) that supported the jam sessions.

Frank Sprague explained Native American Tribal Dance as members of the Gun Lake Tribe demonstrated the footwork and moves. Photo: G. Voss

Students from the Scoil Rince Ni Bhraonain Dance School demonstrated their award winning Irish dancing. Photo: G. Voss

The Allegan High School Symphonic Band featured Dr. Alex Wilson on the trumpet during "The Maid of the Mist". Photo: G. Voss

Members of the Original Dulcimer Club of Kalamazoo drew crowds to Artist Hall for two sessions. Photo: G. Voss

The Allegan Folklife Music and Art Festival was capped off by the music of The Whistle Pigs Brass from Indiana. The group had the audience bobbing heads and tapping feet for a spirit filled concert of vocals and instrumentation. Photo: G. Voss

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Community Events

Community Calendar - Week of March 30, 2026

Event information can be sent to:
wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com

HUGE WEEKEND OF EVENTS!

Wed., Apr. 8, 2026: Deadline to register for Lifeline Gala
Register for the Thurs., April 23rd Gala by contacting 269 673-3791, emailing development@safeharborcac.org. or visiting www.safeharborcac.org/events.
Thurs., Apr. 2, 2026, 6pm: Local Writers' Meeting. Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St.
Thurs., Apr. 2, 2026, 7pm: Allegan Jaycee General Membership Meeting. Sassy Olive, 125 Locust St., Allegan
Sun., Apr. 5, 2026, 11:30am-3pm: Easter Brunch Buffet. The Silo Banquet Facility 1071 32nd St. Allegan
Mon., Apr. 6, 2026, 11am: Musical Storybook & Instrument Zoo. Allegan District Library, 331 Hubbard St., Allegan

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Apr. 1, 2026, 6pm: Egg Carton Bunny Portrait
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
The Pintesting activity looks towards spring. Register at 269 673-4625.

Thurs., Apr. 2, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime – 3-5 year olds can drop in to enjoy stories, songs, rhymes and activities.
6pm: Local Writers' Meeting – Writers of all experience levels are welcome to join a special local writers' meeting with Carol Doeringer sharing her experiences with various writing groups. Register at 269 673-4625.

Thurs., Apr. 2, 2026, 7pm: Allegan Jaycee General Membership Meeting
Sassy Olive 125 Locust St. Allegan
All 18-40 year olds are invited to attend the Jaycee and lean about how to make a difference in the Allegan community.

Fri., Apr. 3, 2026, 7pm: Cardgo Card Game
The Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan
Members and guests can compete at Cardgo, which is like bingo, and enjoy food and friends. New members are welcome. Speak with a member or ring the doorbell and we will answer your questions.

Sun., Apr. 5, 2026, 11:30am-3pm: Easter Brunch Buffet
The Silo Banquet Facility 1071 32nd St. Allegan
Reservations can be made at 269 686-8383 for a lovely brunch at The Silo.

Mon., Apr. 6, 2026, 11am: Musical Storybook & Instrument Zoo
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
All ages can drop in and enjoy the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra as they present *The Color Monster* by Anna Llena and Instrument Zoo.

Tues., Apr. 7, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime – 0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
2pm: StarLab Planetarium – The Curious Kids Museum will take participants on a journey through outer space in their inflatable StarLab. All ages can register at 269 673-4625.

Wed., Apr. 8, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
11am: Teen Cookies & Canvas – 6-12 grades can register at 269 673-4625 then paint monarch butterfly.
2pm: Recess for Adults with the Arc of Allegan – Enjoy activities with individuals supported by the Arc.

Thurs., Apr. 9, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Preschool Storytime – 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories, songs, and activities.
3:30pm: Unicorns & Shining Knights Party – It's National Unicorn Day. Drop in, magic is in the air.

Fri., Apr. 10, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
11am: Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary – Get a first-hand experience and learn about reptile friends. Register at 269 673-4625.
3pm: Building Blocks of Financial Literacy Initiative & Storytime – Ages 3-5 can learn how many works through stories.

Fri., Apr. 10, 2026, 7pm: Kevin Henry
The Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan
Members and guests can enjoy food, friends and music. New members are welcome. Speak with a member or ring the doorbell and we will answer your questions.

Sun., Apr. 12, 2026, 7pm: Bargo
The Eagles Chestnut St. Allegan
Members and guests can enjoy food, friends and a take on Bingo. New members are welcome. Speak with a member or ring the doorbell and we will answer your questions.

Apr. 13 – 26, 2026: Allegan Co. Photo Contest Submissions
Allegan County Community Foundation will again accept submissions for the online photo contest.

Mon., Apr. 13, 2026, 10am: Splish, Splash, Stories @ AAC
Allegan Aquatic Center Allegan High School M-89 N
Bring a bathing suit and towel and enjoy silly stories and songs then splash with your family. Register at 269-673-7002 ext. 5504, or visit their website at ard.recdesk.com.

Tues., Apr. 14, 2026: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
10:30am: Lapsit Storytime – 0-2 year olds can enjoy stories and activities.
6:30pm: Book Club – Drop in and enjoy the conversation around *Nature's Best Hope* by Doug Tallamy with the Allegan Conservation District.

Tues., Apr. 14, 2026, 6pm: Fennville, Pullman, Lakeshore Rotary Gathering
Fenn Valley Vineyards 6130 122nd Ave. Fennville
The public is welcome to drop in and join the Rotary as they learn about the the City of Fennville. Snacks & Beverages will be available.

Tues., Apr. 14, 2026, 7-9pm: Sip & Spin Vinyl Night
Tantrick's Down Under Hubbard St. Allegan
Bring a favorite Vinyl to DJ PJ then enjoy conversation and sips with friends.

Wed., Apr. 15, 2026, 6:30pm: Pub Quiz @ Tantrick Brewing Co.
Tantrick Hubbard St. Allegan
Bring a team up to 6 and library card and test your trivia knowledge for 4 rounds. Registration begins at 5:30pm.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Addiction Support Group, Thursdays 7-8pm
1900 Lincoln Road, Allegan
Come as you are.

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Thursdays & Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

Grief Support Groups
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1st Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm, Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2nd Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3rd Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4th Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvino's 1290 M89, Plainwell.

Interfaith Sunday Services
Mothers Trust is a nonprofit that is offering inclusive, interfaith worship services open to all Sundays at 11am at 6676 122nd Ave. Fennville. Information: Megan Hybels 269 312-0369, megan_h@motherstrust.org

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People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
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Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
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United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
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April 11th 2026, 2-4pm
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- Collects real and personal property taxes for township as well as other tax-levying entities
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- Responsible for jeopardy assessments in collecting delinquent personal property tax
- Collects mobile home specific tax
- Keeps an account of township receipts (revenues) and expenditures
- Prepares some financial reports, including at least monthly "cash activity by fund and bank account", and investments reports
- Issues all township checks/payments
- Receives and deposits all township revenues and payments in approved depositories
- Able to designate others to receive and receipt for all monies coming into the township
- Invests township funds in approved investment vehicles as directed by the township board in investment policy and depository resolution
- Township "department head" for tax collecting and other receipt of funds (budgeting and preparation of equipment, software, training, internal staffing, etc.)
- Maintains records of the treasurer's office

Applicants must be legal voters of Cheshire Township and have been a resident of the township for at least one year. They would also be able to run in the August 2026 election.

We are looking for a proactive, detail-oriented professional who values meaningful community engagement. If you are passionate about serving the residents of Cheshire Township, we encourage you to apply!

Please submit your resume to cheshireclerk@yahoo.com. Resumes must be received by April 15, 2026.

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Art in the Garden presents
A BOUQUET OF ARTS
Saturday, April 18
at the Silo - 1071 32nd St. (M-40 South) • Allegan, Michigan
This free community event has something for every member of the family!
10am - 4pm Artists Market
Poetry Reading:
10:30-11:00 West Michigan poetry group North
Creative Workshops:
11:00-12:30 Bloomin' Beautiful Crochet Necklace with Drew Emborsky
1:00-2:00 The Art of Miniature Moss Gardening with Pete Savage
Tickets can be purchased from Something Sweet for You and The Bear & Fox Yarn Den prior to event
Live Music:
11:00-1:00 Iron Bridge Strings
1:30-3:30 Whiskey & Wine Band
Creative Corner for All Ages:
10:00-3:30 Free activities all day
Story Time at 10:30, Instrument Petting Zoo at 2:00
allegan area arts council
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Allegan student accepted to West Point

By Gari Voss

Juniors and Seniors begin making decisions regarding post high school during their junior or early senior year in high school. That decision may be made with the assistance of parents, counselors, teachers, peers, or trusted adults. For Eliza DeLaet, the seed was planted during a conversation with her respected music teacher Rebecca Balkon and has taken her on quite the journey to West Point Military Academy.

Eliza had thought about college but wavered on her major and the best post-graduation location.

As the fourth sibling of five, Eliza had watched her older sisters and brother choose a variety of paths after high school. During her K-12 years, Eliza had chosen to participate in a number of extracurricular activities – swimming, choir, drama, and scouts.

When Eliza was asked when she realized that she was honing her leadership skills, her response was insightful.

"I think that leadership begins with how to be part of a team. I have four siblings, and we have always been a team, like cleaning the kitchen, the house, and yard. Being alone was never an option… Just the family dynamics, and my older sister, Naomi, who was a leader and helped us not get on our parents' nerves or step on their toes."

As Eliza continued to consider the question, "In 5th grade, I joined Scouts. My older brother was in scouts, and they had just allowed girls to join Boys Scouts. I was excited because I had been in Girl Scouts for a little while, but they didn't go outside as much as I wanted. I'm a very outdoorsy person, and wanted to be exactly like my older brother, Clyde. So, I was very excited to do meetings and campouts with him. Scouts is all about how to become a leader in your community in a morally straight and environmentally friendly way."

Then in sixth grade, COVID hit. Members left the girls' troop. Eliza shared that the girls' troop was separate from the boy's troop, and even though it was co-ed, the girls had their own leaders. This narrowed the options for the girls to take leadership roles. "I was put into a senior patrol leader position, which is the highest leadership position. I only had to manage four other girls, but some were two years older than I was. For a sixth grader, that is a big difference. My troop was very supportive, so it was still a team, and I was still learning how to be the leader."

The situation changed when Eliza's younger brother, John, joined scouts. Eliza was in a leadership position and learned to balance being a leader for someone who knew her from home. The situation assisted her in growing as a leader who needed to delegate tasks.

Swimming became another anchor for Eliza. "I really think it had a more profound impact on my life than any other activity, truly. I've been swimming for almost 14 years, and it really taught me discipline, both mentally and physically. Nowhere else have I found such a loving non-biological family as my swim team. The sport provided me with stability as I moved schools during COVID, and gave me my first friends in the new school."

Along with scouts and swimming, Eliza has a love for music and theater. She loved her sister's voice and wanted to follow in her footsteps. She joined the choir in 6th grade when she reached middle school. During COVID, Zoom choir classes did not work very well. It was when Eliza got to high school, and she was selected for Chamber Choir, that Ms. Balkon became more than a teacher with authority.

Following in Naomi's footsteps, Eliza found that she loved theater and being on stage. She realized the importance of her castmates. Each year, the cast changes as people drop away and others step forward, but each cast creates a special environment. When preparing for a production of *The Curious Savage*, Eliza found that it was really special being a member of the cast. "Although it was a play, not a musical, I had so much fun rehearsing and performing because of the atmosphere the cast created."

Eliza realized that each year seniors acted their last hurrah, and this year's plays were her last hurrahs. Everything is rather bittersweet. When considering thespian experiences, at first, she thought that performing in well-known plays and musicals would be the most rewarding experiences. Then she came to Allegan that did lesser known productions. After being in the cast for *The Curious Savage*, *Girls in the Boat*, and *Working: The Musical*, "I found that I liked the lesser known productions. I liked the small casts. It was easier to feel like a family with them."

When asked about decisions for college, Eliza admitted, "I had procrastinated. I have been afraid to grow up. We are so excited to grow up and be just like our parents and working seems so fun. I didn't want to be treated like a child, but it is scary. I wasn't prepared for this. In my junior year, my dad reminded me that we had to go and look at colleges. But during my junior year, I was studying for my SAT and getting ready for AP exams. I just wasn't ready to drop everything. I was scared. I felt that if I physically took that step, it would be more real."

When considering a major, neuro-science seemed the goal. Eliza loved learning about neurons and the nervous system, plus the 6-figure income was a factor. Then she took a psychology class. When studying the unit on neuro-science, that interest faded. Behavioral Science came to the foreground because of Eliza's love of learning how the brain works based on social cues and experiences. Thus, it was no longer a passion to learn how nerves fire, but how people behaved.

This began a new path for exploring post-high school options. "What really drew me to the military was PTSD. In addition, I wanted to be able to support myself. So, the military drew me in even as a freshman because I was thinking that I could go to any college I wanted then serve afterward."

After conversations with her grandparents, she found that neither of her grandfathers, who had served, wanted to discuss their experiences that had traumatized them. That piqued Eliza's interest further.

Her thoughts took her to consider the Navy where she could use her swimming abilities or to fly in helicopters. But near the end of her junior year, Ms. Balkon planted the thought to apply to one of the military academies rather than wait to serve until after college. "She had a lot of faith in me," reflected Eliza. "I thought, 'Why not? What is the worst they can do? Tell me no?' I would never know if I didn't try."

Between her junior and senior years, Eliza attended a meeting led by representatives from all of the military academies. She met Representative Bill Huizenga who spoke about the academies and the nomination process.

Eliza DeLaet, a senior at Allegan High School, has been accepted to West Point Military Academy. West will be studying Behavioral Sciences to achieve her goal to learn how to support others who are suffering from stressful situations. Photo courtesy of Eliza DeLaet

"I felt behind because the application process had already started," explained Eliza. "People at the meeting seemed to already know about the military and about the programs, the process, and exactly what they wanted their path to be. I was fresh to everything."

Eliza pushed beyond her comfort zone and the uneasy feelings. It took a couple days to fill out her portal. But once the ball started rolling, her teachers were extremely supportive.

"I couldn't stop the process," remembers Eliza. "As I continued with the process, it became more than doing it because other people thought I could do it. I actually wanted to do it and looked into West Points' Behavioral Science program. That made me excited, especially because of the Psych class I took in the fall. It was the most interesting class I had taken in my life, and I now knew that I wanted to serve people who live with combat-based trauma."

The process really began in the fall of 2025. Eliza was busy with the varsity swim season that was in full swing, *Girls in the Boat* rehearsals, and the Honors Choir performance coming soon. But she had to begin her nomination process, so there were letters to write to her representative and senators.

On the same Saturday as the choir performance, she had Zoom interviews with Elissa Slotkin's and Bill Huizenga's teams. On Sunday, there was the meeting with Gary Peters. Eliza felt fortunate that one of her scout leaders, Sean Seaver, had sons who went into the military. His insight into the strictness of military life and expectations were extremely helpful in preparing for the interviews.

"He helped me to prepare with more than just information; he held mock interviews with me and helped me build my confidence before the interviews," explained Eliza. Those interviews brought two letters of acceptance and one of rejection.

Because the interviews were on the weekend after Thanksgiving, Eliza expected the decision to arrive in December or early January. Over Christmas, the mail was being held at the post office because a snowplow had run over the DeLaet's mailbox. In addition, the government shutdown took a toll. Thus, letters did not get sent until mid-January. Eliza knew that being nominated was not an automatic ticket to West Point, but she felt that the nomination showed that someone believed in her, and this was really powerful.

Then there were the health examination and physical fitness test. "My sister, Isabelle, made me workout every day. Mr. Tony Danzig, the physical education teacher, oversaw the physical elements, but there was an examination by a doctor who was approved by the academies. The physical fitness portion had to be postponed because of the week of snow days, and the health examination results were held up."

Applications were due January 31, 2026, which made it extremely important to have the nominations in hand. She still had to craft her responses to the application essays.

"One of the questions was to write about a time when you faced adversity," shared Eliza. "I am not sure exactly how I answered that item, but I submitted my application a little more than 24 hours before it was due. Applications are processed in the order in which they came in, so I scolded myself about procrastination."

Leaving things in God's hands, Eliza went about her other activities. Decisions were not due to be announced until late February to early May. It was during a day when she took a quick trip home before returning to school to teach swimming lessons that Eliza saw she had a missed call from an unknown number. It was Bill Huizenga's office.

This was twelve days after Eliza had submitted her application, and just mid-February, which was very early in the decision announcement window. Eliza had sent notes thanking Huizenga and the senators for their nominations. Huizenga acknowledged that he had received Eliza's thank you note. The note had been sent to West Point. As Eliza verbally thanked him for his support, his response was that West Point had accepted her. That message was followed by one from Elissa Slotkin with the same news and congratulations.

"I was so relieved and excited," exclaimed Eliza. "I immediately called my mom (Beth Ann) and dad (Kevin) plus relatives."

Eliza's journey is truly just beginning. As she completes her senior year, she will be involved in track along with completing her academic studies. She reflected on preparing for graduation along with purchasing items like combat boots and packing for Boot Camp.

Reception Day at West Point will happen on June 29, 2026. This will begin 6 weeks of Basic Training for all the new cadets in what sounds like a very rustic area. In mid-August, there will be a long walk back to campus and a big parade before fall classes begin.

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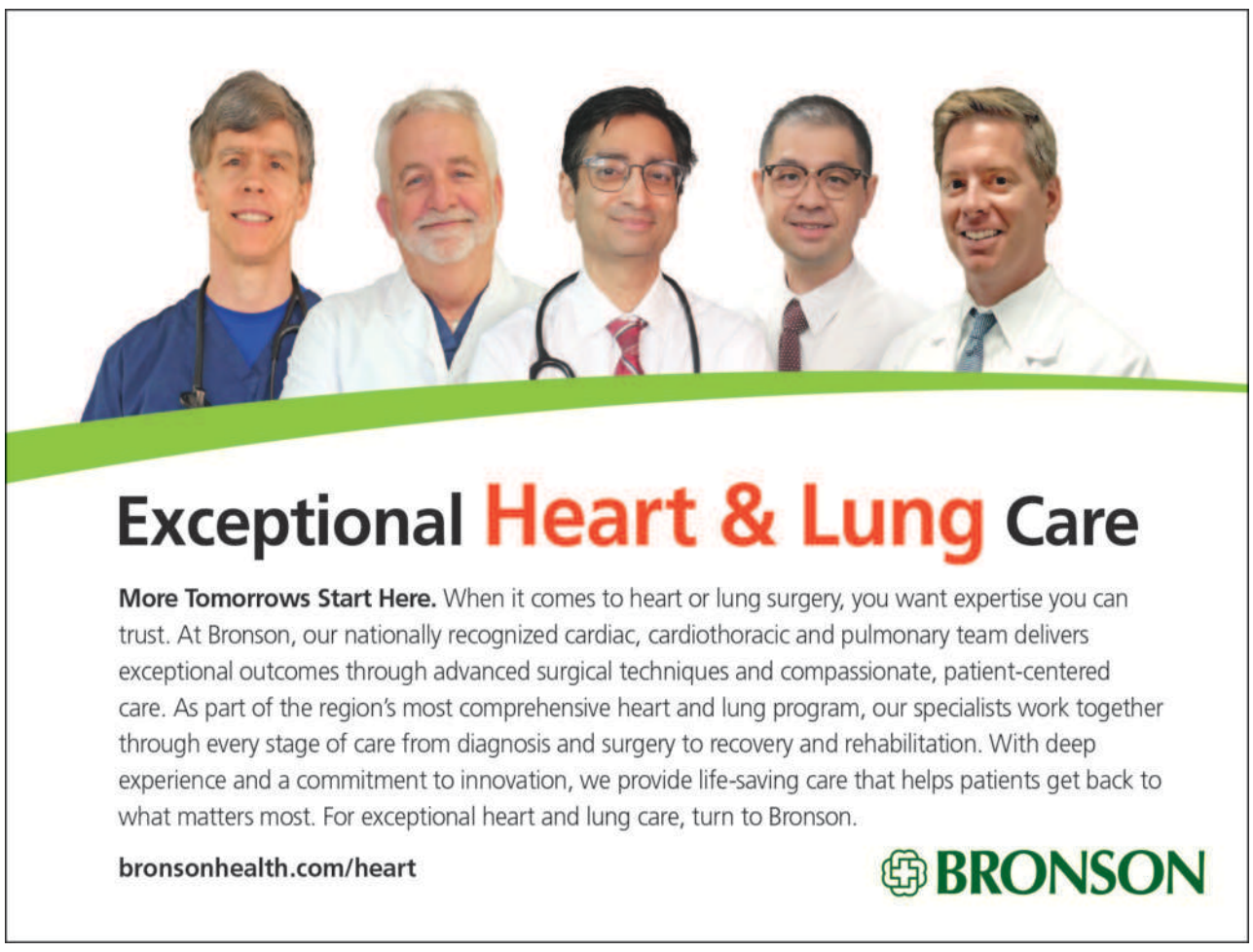

Shame on Congress, sexual harassment, misconduct claims will remain secret

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX

■ PUBLISHER ■

There are few things more corrosive to public trust than the appearance that those in power play by a different set of rules. Congress's long-standing practice of shielding the identities of lawmakers who used taxpayer-funded settlements to resolve sexual harassment claims is one of those practices—and it should end. The fact that lawmakers recently voted to keep those names confidential only deepens the problem—and the public's frustration.

For years, allegations involving members of Congress were quietly funneled through the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights, formerly the Office of Compliance, with settlements paid out of a secretive fund. While reforms in recent years have shifted financial responsibility to individual lawmakers, the culture of secrecy remains stubbornly intact. The question is simple: why should the public be kept in the dark about misconduct committed by elected officials, especially when public money was used to resolve those claims?

That question became unavoidable earlier this month when Congressperson Nancy Mace forced a vote to bring transparency to the system. Her proposal would have required the release of records related to sexual harassment and misconduct claims—while still protecting victims by redacting their identities. It was a measured, reasonable attempt to balance privacy with accountability.

And yet, it failed—decisively.

By a margin of roughly 357–65, members of Congress from both parties voted to keep those records hidden. It was a rare moment of bipartisan unity, but not one the American public should celebrate. Instead of choosing transparency, lawmakers chose to protect the institution—and, by extension, themselves.

When I saw the vote total I was flabbergasted. Congress is roughly divided evenly between male and female, yet dozens if not a few hundred female representatives voted to keep sexual harassment claims secret. Please explain to me why?

In virtually every other workplace in America, accountability matters. When executives or employees engage in harassment and a settlement is reached, there are often consequences—professional, reputational, or legal. Yet in Congress, the very institution tasked with writing and enforcing the nation's laws, there has historically been a quiet escape hatch. Names withheld. Records sealed. Accountability deferred.

Defenders of anonymity argue that confidentiality protects victims, and that is a valid and important concern. Survivors of harassment should never be forced into the spotlight against their will. But protecting victims and shielding perpetrators are not the same thing. It is entirely possible—and necessary—to safeguard victims' identities while still disclosing the names of those who abused their power. In fact, failing to do so often protects repeat offenders and enables patterns of misconduct to continue unchecked.

Transparency is not about punishment—it's about trust. Voters have a right to know whether the individuals representing them have used public funds to settle allegations of serious wrongdoing. These are not private citizens; they are public servants entrusted with authority, influence, and taxpayer dollars. Concealing their actions erodes confidence in government and reinforces the perception of a protected political class.

The recent vote to keep these records confidential also undermines deterrence. If lawmakers know that any misconduct will remain hidden, quietly resolved behind closed doors, what incentive is there to change behavior? Sunlight, as the saying goes, is the best disinfectant. Transparency would send a clear message: no one is above the standards they impose on others.

This is not a partisan issue. Misconduct knows no party lines, and neither should accountability. Whether Democrat or Republican, any lawmaker who has used a taxpayer-funded settlement to resolve harassment claims should be subject to public scrutiny. Anything less is a disservice to the American people.

Congress has made some progress, but not enough. Reforms that require members to personally repay settlements are a step in the right direction, but they do not address the core issue of transparency. And with a vote that so overwhelmingly reinforces secrecy, Congress risks further eroding what little trust remains.

If Congress wants to restore faith in its institution, it must start by holding itself to the same standards it expects from everyone else. That means reversing course, releasing the names, and proving that accountability is more than just a talking point.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

The other day I opened my accordion case for the first time in far too long. Under it were a couple song books published by the War Department at the beginning of World War II.

The USO, chaplains and division morale officers distributed these and other books at home and abroad. The titles included patriotic and camp-fire music for sing-alongs.

Music and singing have always been important to our men and women in uniform, dating back to at least the time of General Washington. They were good for morale because they refocused the mind. Plus singing while marching seems to make the miles less boring.

Even our shortest war, the 1898 Spanish-American, rated at least one song "There'll Be a Hot Time in the Old Town Tonight."

World War I had some real dandies: "Sister Suzie Sewing Shirts for Soldiers, "We're Going to Hang Kaiser Bill on the Highest Linden Tree," "So Long Broadway, Hello France" and many more. My father's favorite was a bad pun, "We Don't Want the Bacon, All We Want is a Piece of the Rhine."

World War II "Hits of the Blitz" included, "I'll Be Seeing You in All the Old Familiar Places, "White Cliffs of Dover," "Run Rabbit Run, and "I'm Going to Hang out the Laundry on the Siegfried Line; in Da Führer's Face."

We had protest songs, sad songs, funny songs because The Olds understood that singing was good for the morale. Harriet Tubman, the famous conductor on the Underground Railroad, wrote that her work was hard, often dangerous and always daunting. Yet never, she stated, did she and her companions ever quit singing. She was criticized for it, but explained that singing was needed for the survival of the spirit.

I also excavated a songbook from summer church camp. If you ever went to almost any summer camp, church or secular, you probably recall musty cabins, bad food and homesickness. Summer camp was straight out of Allen Sherman's 1963 hit "Hello Muddah, Hello Fadduh, Here I Am, at Camp Granada." Listen to it on YouTube sometime.

If you now one of The Olds, force your tax exemptions to listen to it the next time they fuss about their rough life when there is no Wi-Fi service.

In the dining hall after a meal or around a campfire, whether we liked it or not, we joined together for the daily singalong. Before long our mood began to improve. They helped build a sense of community that led to those cliché-ish group pictures on the front steps of our cabin and promises we'll all get together right here in 10 years.

Those reunions probably never happened, but when we hear the words and tunes now they take us back to a time when the world seemed safer and morer fun too, because we weren't spending time with our devices.

I'm not suggesting a singalong will cure all of the divisions and animosities in our country, but it might help at least a little. Right now, the way things are going, we need something fun and positive.

An example can be found in the rural fishing communities of Newfoundland, Canada. Life there is hard. There is not much else to do, so once a week or so a family hosts a kitchen party where everyone is welcome to enjoy the bread and bologna sandwiches. Guests bring a dish to pass, with cod tongue on dulce (boiled seaweed) being favorites, especially when washed down by a bump or two from a Mason jar of Newfie Screech which is 100-pure alcohol.

A couple of rounds of the jar and everyone is ready to start the music. The instruments are tuned (more or less) and someone leads off with old favorites like "Heave Away!"or "I'se the B'y that Builds the Boat and I'se the B'y that Sails Her." After that comes more songs, food and Screech.

When hosts are ready to send guests home, they'll nod to the oldest person there. They slowly go around the room, one person to the next, singing an improvised message of appreciation for them. That takes on deeper meaning when you remember these are mainly fishing ports, and commercial fishing is one of the most dangerous of all professions. A guest one night might go out the next day and never return.

Remember the 9/11 terrorist attacks, when suddenly passenger planes were diverted to Gander, Newfoundland? In quick order the locals pulled out all the stops to make guests feel welcome. Housing was found for them, and when the hotels were filled natives welcomed guests into their homes. Food instantly appeared in churches and the Royal Canadian Legion halls.

What many guests remember best was the warmth of the kitchen party. It was the combination of trying new food and Screech, being made Honorary Newfoundlanders when they kissed the lips of a cod and the singing. Little wonder some of the unexpected visitors still stay in close touch with new-found friends living on the Rock.

We have lost something important in our lives. The fault is on our reliance on all our devices to connect with people at the expense of the person next to you or across the table. It has squeezed out the old tradition of people informally getting together to experience the pure joy of singing.

We can change that. About all it takes is for someone with some knowledge of music and songbooks. Then just invite them over to your place for a sing-along and light refreshments. We'll make at least our little corner of the world a better and happier place.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Citizens must rally to make America great again

Dear Editor:

How have we let our guards down so low that we have no ability to turn away the dastardly among us who would do bad to the USA, its promises, its ideals and its very nature? We are an open society yet offer ourselves only the least protections against manipulators who boldly and brazenly, openly step into our processes intent on corrupting those same processes to THEIR advantage; And we do nothing to recognize the nefarious motivations of the many who are diligently at work to destroy us.

It is beyond innocent naivety when even our Supreme Court in its self-proclaimed importance cannot see through the fog of its own legalese to the simple paths leading to more effective, more practical, more justifiable, more useful conclusions serving our Country, our society, our species and our planet. Must we truly fight among our neighbors or are we able to recognize the neighbors among us who we have so long relied upon in times of need and rejoiced around our sports, our familiars, our traditions?

Yes we must until the circle of the idiocy is broken. Time now to look and see at the barest minimum truths allowing us to feel the good will across the fields and towns of America which can draw so many to our shores in hopes of gaining a chance to partake in what we already have and so quickly have taken for granted to the point of complacency? If so many from around the world and through the many decades yearn so tenaciously for the recognized potential of living in the USA why can we not see it, cherish it and seek to protect it?

The whims and whimsy of our mandated judicial decisions leave us to believe a purely legal construct of the Corporation can stand, tall and resolute as equivalent force to a person. Could the precision of our error be more obvious? We cannot dissect it, we cannot jail it, we cannot discern the source of its conscious, yet we are capable of granting it, the corporation, full rights of person-hood? Rather self-serving in the precision of our ability to determine just what is the value of that growth inside a women, once it has begun, More precisely wrong we cannot be. But oh do we go on about the wisdom of our conclusion. Even God is seen to be on our side. We versus thee, is forever the challenge which we are required to maintain in order to recognize ourselves as distinct and separate from the other beasts among us on this little rock we find ourselves.

2nd Amendment: Time for the 'well organized' piece' of the second amendment to take on it's required level of significance along with gun ownership. Much, for to long, has been and still is wrongly being assumed. Responsibility of gun owners is so extremely lightly touched by legal restraint as to be nonexistent.

The term "well regulated militia" in the Second Amendment refers to a militia that is properly trained and disciplined, which was seen as essential for the security of a free state. It implies that the militia should be organized and prepared to defend the community, rather than being a random or untrained group of individuals. Absent the 'well organized' piece of this work toward our Country's and Communities Security Force perhaps we might (Supreme C.) reconsider just who among us should hare a right to bear arms!

A good start toward our properly trained and disciplined security force would in my mind begin with a Quarter Master's comprehensive inventory of the firearms and the ammunition currently at the ready for use in turning down an insurrection's rising from foreign or domestic efforts to topple our country's sovereignty. Even before this our trusted leaders need a quality list of names within jurisdiction that have received adequate training and discipline to be considered at the ready as and when needed. Good leadership toward such an important, demanding and complicated task must begin with clearly stating the purpose and role of the unit. In these trying times, most particularly, defining how who and when an enemy is identified.

I find myself worn down. Who among us is to begin?

Someone, or many, of our sovereign citizens must, please step forward and begin yet again the USA enthusiastically!

John F 'Ric' Curtis

War, not speculators are driving gas prices

To the Editor:

On March 18, 2026, Publisher Wilcox wrote "Speculators, not war are driving gas prices higher." Because Publisher Wilcox has a partisan bias in favor of President Trump ("Trump") no matter what is done or said (remember give tariffs a chance?), one has to FACT CHECK all of Mike's Musings.

My FACT CHECK showed that based on current market conditions as of March 2026, Publisher Wilcox's claim is LARGELY FALSE OR MISLEADING. While analysts agree that market speculation can amplify price movements, the PRIMARY DRIVER of the rapid gas prices rise is the war in Iran. The conflict threatens major supply disruptions through the Strait of Hormuz, causing oil prices to surge above $100 per barrel.

The fear of a real, physical shortage where 20% of the world's oil could be blocked - is fueling market prices, not just speculation. Add to this the chaos created daily by Trump.

Allies cannot trust Trump to change course on a dime or whim by tweet at 2AM on any given day.

Publisher Wilcox called for "Greater transparency and stricter oversight" in regard to gasoline prices. Why stop there? Let's muse on other areas of concern, e.g. abuse of power, corruption, nepotism, emoluments, conflicts of interest, 3 million Epstein files held back, decision to end diplomacy and attack Iran with Israel (for the arguable benefit of Saudi

Arabia), lifting oil sanctions on Russia AND Iran, etc., etc.

Let's muse on the following. Jared Kushner's equity firm Affinity Partners secured a $2 BILLION investment from the Saudi Public Investment Fund ("PIF") in 2021. In late 2024, Jared Kushner ("Kushner") stated he would "preemptively try to avoid conflicts of interest" during Trump's second term by not raising new capital for Affinity Partners for four years.

In February 2026, Kushner was appointed "Special Envoy" to negotiate with Iran regarding its nuclear program. Negotiations with Iran were reportedly moving forward in March. This according to Oman Foreign Minister Badr bin Hamad Al Busaidi. The USA intelligence community reported that Iran posed "no imminent threat" to the USA. The New York Times (not The Epoch Times) reported in March 2026 that Affinity Partners was seeking another $5 BILLION from Saudi Arabia. At or about the same

time, Kushner told Trump that Kushner felt Iran would attack

the USA soon. Thereafter, Trump followed Israel in attacking Iran. Iran is one of Saudi Arabia's biggest, if not biggest, enemies. It appears that Saudi Arabia bought the USA's military might for $5 BILLION paid to Kushner's Affinity Partners. So, with the above said, I look forward to Mike's Musings on the above and reasons for Trump's "excursion" into Iran. Gold Star families deserve the truth. Sunlight is the best disinfectant.

PS Sorry, but Trump on Friday March 20th said on his Truth Social account that "they (NATO) complain about the high oil prices they are forced to pay, but don't want to help open the Strait of Hormuz, a simple military maneuver that is (drum roll) the single reason for the high oil prices." Trump is not blaming speculators for high gas prices. He is blaming the closure of the Strait of Hormuz which is a result of Trump's "excursion."

W. DeHoek
Allegan

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Letters to the editor

Political issues everyone needs to think about

Dear Editor:

The Trump Tariff program has been a complete failure, and Americans are forced to deal with it. According to independent economists "Trump's Tariffs led China to a $1 Trillian dollar surplus. This is a revolting development, and it is detrimental for our own economy. This is no different than the six Trump Corporate bankruptcies... (Trump Hotels, Taj Mahal Plaza, Casino, Trump Entertainment Resorts, Trump Shuttle, Trump University). The United States has slipped (or crashed) to its lowest ever ranking in the global corruption index. (According with international panel's ranking.) It appears that only "Blue" States or people who stood up or questioned him become a product of his vengeance. With one failed lawsuit over another directed by him. He claims vengeance on everyone who speaks against him. Even his MAGA base is going against him. His cabinet members that would never been appointed without the cooperation the Republican Representatives and Congressmen. Most cabinet members have either been brought up on charges or have failed in their duties to represent the citizens of the United States and not to a dictator.

NEVER GO TO WAR??? OUR American Men and Women are being put in "harm's way". This little "excursion" has already brought "body bags" back to Dover AirForce Base. Let's face it. We are unofficially at war. No plans, No objectives, and asking for two billion dollars to go to the Defense Department to extend the little excursion. With rumblings of war in Iran, Cuba, Greenland, Argentina, etc. This is the worse mess our Country has been in. Perhaps if his sons and daughters were in the military, he would have more empathy. It's as if he is playing with toy soldiers. We all need to look at what is happening to our economy, our rights, our military, etc. and turn up to vote in the Primary to take back our Country.

Pat Miner

Up-to-date News Items

Dear Editor:

The political news gets more bizarre as time goes by. It is vital that we know and understand the who and why's of current happenings.

Corey Lewandowski, and former member of the Homeland Security staff, said "he could do whatever he wants because Donald Trump would pardon him if need be". This certainly implies of illegal actions by him. This is not what the power of the pardon that was given to the executive branch of government was supposed to be.

GOP Senator Jon Husted is quoted and videotaped saying "people living below the poverty level do not know how the real world works". He talked about SNAP recipients having unlimited money and purchasing power. How foolish and uninformed, this is untrue. Propaganda plus!

A recent poll on the Supreme Court found that public confidence is at an all-time low being at 22%. This is very distressing, and a good reason not to have lifetime appointments.

A question was raised on whether an entire administration can be impeached? Article II Section IV of the Constitution allow this with a simple majority in the House of Representatives and a two-thirds vote in the Senate. This applies to the president, vice president, and cabinet officials for treason, bribery and other high crimes and misdemeanors.

The war thus far has more than 2000 dead, and UNICEF has declared that more than 1100 children have been killed (as time goes on these numbers are bound to increase). Sad news!

There have been an assortment of lies coming out of the White House. One of the more dangerous lies is President Trump claiming the Straits of Hormuz are in great shape. Trump told oil tankers to have more guts and plow through the Straits. An interesting sidelight is that insurance companies have informed those in charge of oil tankers that their insurance will not be covered until a resolution between countries has taken place.

CPAC chairman Matt Schapp says "that girls killed in the bombing in Iran are better off dead" What a disgusting response who maintains his leadership in Republican politics. He also said "we know the United States and Israel attacked a country that poses no serious threat to either country ". Schnapps went on to say that Iran is a "barbaric society" and deserved to be bombed.

March 17,2026 news:

1. Trump boasted "that he could do anything he wanted to Cuba".
2. Trump also said "I do believe I'll be having the honor of taking Cuba, that I can do anything I want if you want to know the truth ".
3. Trump also said he li Cuba's landscape and it could be very lucrative.
4. The Trump Administration said "people who don't belong here(immigrants) are responsible for the National Debt". This was said without evidence. How absurd!
5. Tariffs and the Save Act seem to be hurting Republicans in the midterms.
6. Trump's failures- The Iran War is exposing President Trump's unfinished for national lea. The world is interconnected and Trump and other people have a say (Trump never understood this). He kept doubling down which showed his inability to led. He didn't include business executives or economists.

His "I'm the smartest person in the world complex took over".

7. He,the president, had no one to sue, no rules to manipulate, only hard realities of resource shortages and war.
8. When Trump asked NATO nations for help he got a NO answer.
9. It was not in disagreement with NATO's article 5 which states when one nation is attacked all members will defend each other because the U.S. was not attacked. His distain and ridiculing NATO members will seldom bring good results.

When a leader praises dictatorships and criticizes Democratic countries, and wants a favor from democratic allies it just will not happen.

Who would have thought after World War II that Germany and Japan would have thriving democracies. What is happening to U.S. political leadership?

Mark Austin, Hopkins

Reader looking forward to birthright citizenship debate

Dear Editor:

Birthright Citizenship is for the first time being considered by the United States Supreme Court. Why, because for decades businesses are making a lot of money accommodating foreign persons helping them to give birth while visiting the United States (U. S.); they give birth on U. S. soil getting a U. S. Social Security Card for the baby than return to their home country. There are lots of Chinese birthing customers in California. The baby is now forever a U. S. Citizen even if they never live here or never return to the United States.

As usual, there are different views/opinions on birth right citizenship. Perhaps a mere few word definitions can be re-define in the U. S. Constitutions to clarify or interpret or translate words to achieve some kind of desired outcome?

The Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution states that " [a]ll persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

For now, lets just leave the debate and decision to the United States Supreme Court. However I do have a few simple observations that might be presented during the Supreme Court hearings:

- If a person is vacationing in the U. S. only to give birth, is the baby a citizen?
- If a person on a student visa attending school gives birth, is the baby a citizen?
- If on a temporary work visa and a baby is born, is the baby a citizen?
- If on a temporary diversity visa and a baby is born, is the baby a citizen?
- If on temporary humanitarian exception visa and a baby is born, is the baby a citizen?
- If in the U. S. illegally and a baby is born, is the baby a citizen?

The last example: in order to attend a Rock Concert in New York, the Canadian/United States border is crossed; a baby is born at the Rock Concert; is the baby a United States Citizen?

I'm very interested in hearing the discussion and debate on the few words in the The Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution. I suspect many word contortions, definitions, … and geriatric maneuvers will be outstanding, a joy to behold with earth shattering and entertaining discussions.

It'll be so much fun to see and hear how the words are parsed during the Supreme Court presentations. The Supreme Court decision will be very, very, interesting too.

Philip Zamlynski

LIVING WITH GRIEF

BY RONNIE EWING/ AFTERCARE SPECIALIST

LIVING WITH GRIEF, is a monthly column provided by GordenFuneral Residence. Each month LIVING WITH GRIEF will feature some helpful advice as you the reader move forward through your personal grieving process, or simply want to be educated to help those whom you may know have recently experienced a loss, or traumatic event.

Sometimes the hardest step in moving forward, is the first. Give yourself grace! And know this, that it is rare, to not have to take 5 step backwards shortly after step numero uno…. Its been my experience the past couple of months to do just that. In my line of work, triggers are unavoidable. I mean, give me a break, I work in the death care industry. Shortly after my Mom had passed, I officiated my first service, after hers. I wasn't quite sure what that was going to be like, especially if the loved one was relatable to my memory of my Mom. But, after a love one passes, in my line of work you just cant quit, and find a new line of work. So what do you do? Move on. Realize this, the world does not pause for you to pick up and go. Some find a support group, or therapy. That's great in all, but to be honest, there is nothing more satisfying than facing your giants and tell them where to go!!! Oh, and people your loved one had in their everyday, OMG! They can either be an asset, or a pain in the asset! Follow?

But please hear me out, and give yourself a break.. There is no true or fixed way to deal with grief, one minute you are laughing and the next minute you are standing in line at Menards or Home Depot because you flipped out and remodeled your house in some way shape or form. (Guilty)

And thats just that, the reality of, LIVING WITH GRIEF.

Gorden Funeral Residence

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

The History and Traditions of Easter

Observed each spring, Easter is one of the most significant holidays in the Christian calendar, commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. While its religious importance remains central for many, Easter has also developed a variety of cultural traditions that are widely celebrated around the world.

The origins of Easter are rooted in early Christianity, with the holiday marking the culmination of Holy Week, which includes Good Friday, the day believed to commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus. According to the New Testament, Easter Sunday celebrates his resurrection, symbolizing hope, renewal, and new life. Unlike fixed-date holidays, Easter is observed on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox, causing it to fall between late March and mid-April.

Over time, Easter traditions expanded beyond religious observance to include seasonal and cultural elements. Many of these customs are tied to themes of spring and renewal. Eggs, for example, have long been symbols of new life and rebirth. In early Christian communities, eggs were often forbidden during Lent, making them a celebratory food at Easter. The practice of decorating eggs eventually developed, evolving into the colorful Easter eggs seen today.

The Easter Bunny, a popular figure especially in the United States, has its roots in European folklore. German immigrants are believed to have brought the tradition of an egg-laying hare to America in the 18th century. Over time, the character became associated with delivering candy and eggs to children, much like Santa Claus at Christmas.

Easter baskets, egg hunts, and festive meals have also become common traditions. Families often gather for meals featuring dishes such as ham, lamb, and seasonal desserts. Community events, including egg hunts and parades, further reflect the holiday's blend of religious and cultural celebration.

Despite its evolution, the central themes of Easter remain consistent. Whether observed through church services or family traditions, the holiday continues to emphasize renewal, hope, and the arrival of spring. Its enduring appeal lies in its ability to bring together both spiritual meaning and shared celebration, marking a time of reflection and new beginnings.

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Child Abuse Prevention is emphasized during April

By Gari Voss

When Benjamin Franklin offered "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure", he was advising the people of Philadelphia about fire threats in 1736. As the 2026 calendar rolls into April, 'prevention' again becomes the focal point for the people of Allegan County and beyond, but not for fire. April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center is gearing up to assist in bringing an end to these terrible occurrences of child abuse and neglect.

Safe Harbor

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center is a nonprofit organization that provides hope and healing for child victims of abuse and neglect. The sad fact is that everyday children in Allegan County suffer physical, mental, and/or sexual abuse. The services offered at no cost to child victims and their families are provided in one location.

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center assists hundreds of children each year. The organization is a buffer between the abused/neglected children and the court system. Because of the talented Safe Harbor staff, children can receive services in warm, caring surroundings which includes information required by law enforcement agencies.

Children feel more comfortable when in an atmosphere that has a playroom, fun interview rooms, and even a room for a physical exam. Everything is softened up and feels welcoming.

Three programs are housed at Safe Harbor. There is the Beverly Schroeder Advocacy Center (CAC), Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) Program, and the Prevention Education Program. Services are coordinated between these staff members.

Expanding understanding of how to recognize and report abuse and neglect can begin to reduce the numbers of children affected. This means that fewer children will experience the fears and residual effects of abuse and neglect.

Allegan County Data

Michigan Child Abuse Statistics demonstrate that 51% of Michigan adults shared that they had experienced some form of abuse in their childhood. Allegan County is a bit less with 49%. In Allegan County, adults who had Physical Abuse as a child was 31% with Michigan at 27%. Those suffering Verbal Abuse was 38% with Michigan registering 40%. Adults who suffered Sexual Abuse was 19% in Allegan County with Michigan at 14%. Those who had been Touched Sexually showed Allegan County at 17% and Michigan at 12%. Adults who had been forced to touch an adult sexually when then they were a child was at 10% in Allegan County with 9% Michigan-wide. Statistics for those who were forced to have sex in Allegan County was not available while Michigan was at 5%.

Childhood trauma brings toxic stress that can harm a child's brain and physical development. Severe ongoing stress can cause a child's body systems to get stuck and can disrupt brain development. The more incidents a child experiences, the riskier their health behaviors and vulnerability to chronic diseases like cancer, diabetes, stroke, heart disease, and depression as they move through adulthood.

Pinwheel Garden

In years past, Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center has held an Open House and created a Pinwheel Garden in front of their facility on Sherman Streetr. This presented a visual reminder that April focuses on raising awareness of child abuse and neglect. Safe Harbor has led the charge so to speak in Allegan, Barry, and Van Buren Counties to educate the public on not only the high incidents of abuse and neglect, but how everyone can become educated in recognizing when a child is in a harmful situation and how to respond.

For anyone who would like to continue the practice of displaying the playful pinwheels, contacting Safe Harbor at 269 673-3791 will lead to the appropriate provider of pinwheels. The blue and silver pinwheels represent a child's whimsy and delightful vision of the world, and all children should have an opportunity to experience the fun of being a child in a safe environment. It is hoped that the pinwheels will remind everyone of the need to assist in preventing these heinous actions towards children.

Wear Blue Day – April 10, 2026

To signal the beginning of Child Abuse Prevention Month, Friday, April 10, 2026, is designated as Wear Blue Day 2026. The Children Trust Michigan leads this initiative as another visual to raise awareness of abuse and promote safe, nurturing environments for all children. People are invited to take photos of those wearing blue attire and share those photos at #MIWearsBlue and #CAPMonth2026.

18th Annual Lifeline Gala, April 23, 2026, 6pm

Register by Wed., April 8, 2026

In order to provide high-quality services for children suffering from abuse or neglect, funds must be secured. For Safe Harbor, these funds come from a combination of grants and donations. On Thursday, April 23, 2026, Safe Harbor will hold their 18th Annual Lifeline Gala with cocktails, strolling buffet, music by DJ John Kloska, extraordinary raffle items, and the live Buttons for Bravery auction at the Silo on M-40 South in Allegan.

The Safe Habor Board of Directors and staff realize that the greatest supporters in providing "lifelines" to victims of child abuse and neglect are the people in the community. When a community comes together for a common cause, wonderful things happen.

The Buttons for Bravery Live Auction brings surprises, but if an individual, organization, or business is unable to attend, they can still support the services provided to children with a monetary donation or item for the Silent Auction. Sponsorships made before the Gala are important. A Lifeline Sponsorship of $5,000 will give the underwriter a large banner, logo in the program, up to 16 tickets to the event, and social media recognition; Anchor Sponsorship of $2,500 will give the underwriter a small banner, their logo in the program, up to ten tickets to the event, and social media recognition; Lighthouse Sponsorship of $1,000 garners logo in the program, 4 tickets, and social media recognition; and Harbor Sponsorship at $500 gets a name in the program, 2 tickets, and social media recognition. Sponsorships donations can be made before the Gala in order to be recognized in the program and during the festivities.

During the live auction, Buttons for Bravery will be auctioned. No matter the size of the gift, child victims of abuse and neglect will have a safe place to begin healing. To assist in understanding what a donation can offer, the following examples are ways to assist: counseling sessions, a medical exam, a forensic interview for a child and/or an advocacy session with a caregiver.

The underwriting sponsor for the Lifeline Gala 2026 is KMOTION Design with the Dessert Sponsors are Lafayette Creamery and Four Roses.

Prevention

Prevention can focus on children and adults. During April, and other months, the general public is asked to become familiar with Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and begin working together to create solutions for their own communities. For more information, go to miace.org. Honor the value of positive childhood experiences that can promote long-term health and well-being. For additional information check positiveexperience.org. Fostering resilient communities where people can live in thriving families includes understanding how negative health outcomes can improve with positive social support. Go to Michigan.gov/TraumaToxicStress for more information and resources.

Moving Forward

As April moves forward, Wear Blue Day and the Lifeline Gala are just the beginning of educating and raising awareness of the public in the prevention of abuse and neglect. The **week of April 6th** focuses on strengthening families, the **week of April 13th** assists with parent leadership, engagement and involvement, **April 20th holds a week** of Child Abuse Prevention Awareness, and during the **week of April 27th**, awareness will be taken into the community.

Anyone wishing to donate to Safe Harbor in Allegan County, Barry County, or Van Buren County can go to https://safeharborcac.org/. Those unable to donate monetarily can explore volunteer opportunities to assist at the center by contacting through email director@safeharborcac.org or by phone at 269 673-3791.

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In Allegan, MI on March 28, 2026, several hundred ralliers gathered for a No Kings Protest. Picture: G. Voss

Several hundred gather for "No Kings" rally

By Gari Voss

The Roundabout at the intersection of M-89, and M-40 along with Ely, Cedar and Hubbard Streets filled with area citizens who are concerned with the current administration in Washington, DC. Several hundred people gathered with signs expressing their fears and wishes. On March 28, 2026, the No Kings Protests happened in cities of all sizes across the United States and even internationally. This was not the first time that the call went out and people answered.

All age groups, religious denominations and political backgrounds gathered for a variety of reasons whether in the United States or at international sites. Although the causes may have differed from place to place, people wanted to demonstrate their response to inequality, declining standards of living, corruption, democratic backsliding, and authoritarianism.

Most recently in the United States, the concerns have risen from President Trump's executive orders against not only immigrants but people of color who are U.S. citizens or immigrants working toward citizenship, and against his constant rhetoric and legal actions to "punish" anyone who has investigated his past dealings.

Several of those gathered in Allegan had picked up on the mantra that when Epstein's name is uttered, another bomb falls as a distraction. Vehicles of all makes, models and sizes, including 16 and 18-wheelers, circled the roundabout honking and giving thumbs up to those standing in the springlike weather.

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Christian Neighbors hosted one of its Stuff the Bus events at Harding's in Plainwell on Friday, March 20, and Saturday, March 21. Organizers said the event was a big success and thanked those who donated. (Photo provided)

Community comes through for Christian Neighbors' Stuff the Bus drive

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Area residents once again showed their support for those in need, helping Christian Neighbors stock its food pantry during last weekend's Stuff the Bus event.

Held March 20-21 at Harding's Market in Plainwell, the food drive brought in just over $1,100 in monetary donations along with 2,386 pounds of groceries.

The donations come at a critical time for Christian Neighbors, which has seen a significant increase in demand for its services in recent months.

The Stuff the Bus event was designed to give shoppers a simple way to give back while doing their regular grocery shopping, with volunteers stationed at the store entrance to collect donations and share a list of the pantry's most-needed items.

The response from the community once again made a meaningful impact.

"This will help countless individuals and families," Christian Neighbors shared in a statement following the event.

The organization also expressed its appreciation to those who helped make the event possible.

"We want to give a huge thank you to Harding's for hosting this food drive, as well as to all of our amazing volunteers and Plainwell Community Schools for helping make this happen," the statement read.

Christian Neighbors serves families throughout the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas, and continues to rely on community support to keep its pantry shelves stocked.

Christian Neighbors seeks donations for annual auction

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Christian Neighbors is calling on creative community members to help support its upcoming annual auction by donating handmade items, goods or professional services.

The organization is currently seeking donations for its 17th Annual Reflection of Hope Dinner and Auction, which will take place May 14 at The Silo in Allegan, with an online portion running May 15-19.

Donations can include a wide range of items, from handcrafted goods such as quilts, paintings, woodworking projects and stained glass to services like carpet cleaning, deck washing or other specialty offerings.

Funds raised through the event will help Christian Neighbors continue providing support to local families and individuals in need, including assistance with food, housing, utilities and other essential services.

Those interested in contributing are asked to submit their items or services by April 17.

For more information or to arrange a donation, contact Eric Hoffman at ehoffman@christianneighbors.org or by calling (269) 685-4166, ext. 100.

Kids hunt for Easter Eggs at Hicks Park

Hicks Park in Plainwell was the place to be for children and familes on Saturday, March 28.

That's because Hicks was the location of the annual Easter Egg Hunt, which drew hundreds of children despite some chilly temperatures.

Three different age groups were able to collect eggs: four and younger; five to seven; and eight to 10.

In addition to the eggs, refreshments such as cookies, donuts, coffee and hot chocolate were also available for children and adults.

After the hunt, several items were raffled off. Those items included Easter baskets filled with goodies, a dozen fishing poles and bikes for boys and girls in all three age groups of the hunt. (Photos by Jason Wesseldyk)

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Lingbeek shines as Bulldogs sweep Plainwell

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—It was a night to remember for Otsego's Audrey Lingbeek.

The senior softball standout dominated with her bat and her arm, throwing a three-inning perfect game in the opener of a twin bill with Plainwell and hitting for the cycle in the nightcap. That performance led the Bulldogs to the sweep, 15-0 and 18-1.

Lingbeek struck out seven of the nine batters she faced in Game 1, which was stopped after three innings due to the mercy rule. She set the tone early and never let up, overpowering Plainwell hitters while the Bulldogs' offense built a quick lead.

"Audrey has been a fun player to coach for the past four years," Otsego coach Jake Knash said. "She just wants to go out with a solid senior year and give her team her best."

At the plate, Otsego wasted no time backing up Lingbeek, scoring three runs in the first inning, five in the second and seven in the third.

Emma Zimmerman led a 10-hit attack, going 3-for-4 with three runs. Sydneigh Mosher (2-for-3 with two runs and an RBI) also had multiple hits.

Otsego carried that momentum into Game 2, led by Lingbeek.

She went 4-for-4 with a home run, a triple, a double, three runs and four RBI. That made her 5-for-5 in the doubleheader, with a walk and a sacrifice fly.

"She was really seeing the ball well tonight," Knash said of Lingbeek. "Hitting for the cycle — that was special."

Lingbeek wasn't alone in pacing the Otsego offense in the second game. Mikayla Bateman went 3-for-3 with three runs; Rylee Knash finished 4-for-4 with a double, three runs and two RBI; and Addy Lucas added a 3-for-4 performance with a double, two runs and five RBI.

Maddie Back also had multiple hits, going 2-for-3 with three runs and two RBI.

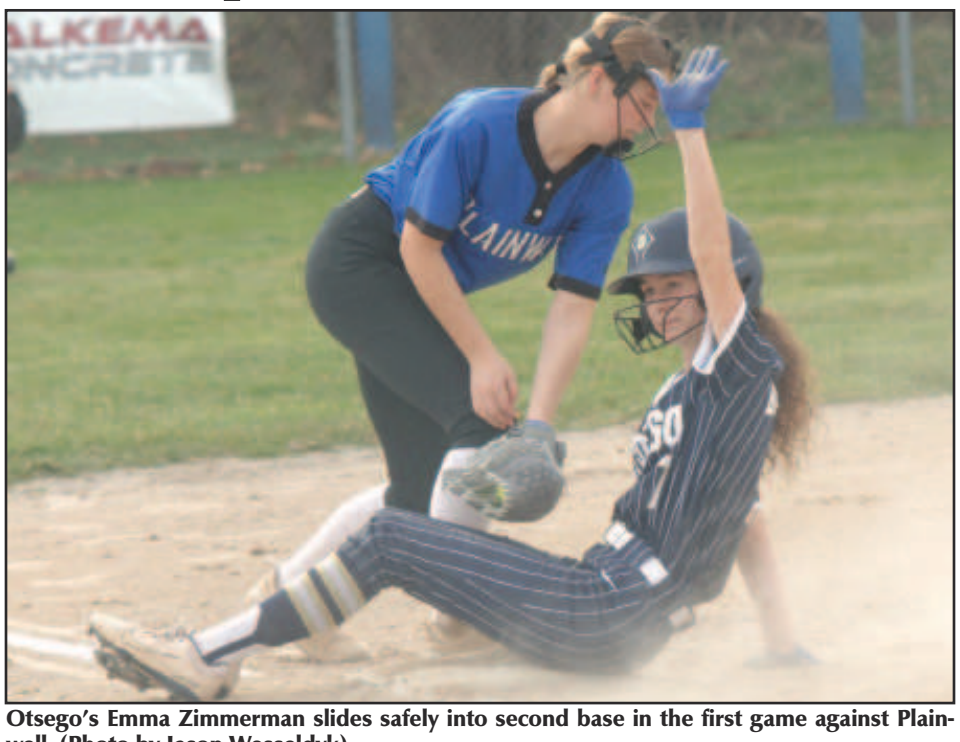
Otsego also received strong work in the circle.

Lucas started and worked the first two innings, helping keep Plainwell off balance early with a run on a hit and two strikeouts. Then Rylee Knash took over and pitched the final three innings to earn the win, striking out five and walking two.

Kaylyn Siebert accounted for Plainwell's hit, a second-inning single that scored Tatum Johnson, who led off the inning with a walk.

"Our defense and pitching were solid tonight," Coach Knash said. "We really limited Plainwell's offense.

"We have solid team. We had a rough start against Three Rivers last week, but this team is ready to battle."



Otsego's Emma Zimmerman slides safely into second base in the first game against Plainwell. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Trojans pick up pair of victories over archrival Otsego

Plainwell first baseman Brady Howard holds on an Otsego base runner. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—It didn't look promising for the Plainwell baseball team through five innings in the opener of its doubleheader with Otsego on Monday, March 30.

But the Trojans delivered when it mattered most.

Trailing 7-5, Plainwell erupted for four runs in the bottom of the sixth inning, then held off Otsego in the seventh to secure a 9-7 comeback victory in the first game of a Wolverine Conference doubleheader.

The Trojans added a walkoff win in the nightcap, as CJ Laninga delivered an RBI single in the bottom of the fifth to snap a 3-3 tie.

The game was stopped after five innings due to darkness.

Plainwell's rally in the opener included an RBI single from Luke Filkins. CJ Laninga and Brady Howard also drove in runs in the frame.

Hampton then took the mound for Plainwell in the seventh inning and fired a scoreless frame with a pair of strikeouts to earn the save.

Hampton, Urijah Davis and Landon Nienhuis each collected two hits for the Trojans. Hampton drove in two runs and Davis scored twice.

Howard picked up the win, tossing 2.2 innings of relief, allowing one unearned run while striking out one. Luke Filkins started for Plainwell, striking out five and surrendering six runs in 3.1 innings.

Otsego had its own offensive moments in the opener, led by Karl Hildebrand with two hits and three RBI. Brennan Perry added a hit and two RBI, while Jaxon Ray also drove in a run.

In Game 2, Plainwell wasted no time grabbing control.

The Trojans scored three runs in the bottom of the first inning, with Laninga and Howard each driving in a run.

But Otsego singles single runs in the first, third and fifth innings to knot the score at 3-3.

In the bottom of the fifth, Laninga delivered the game-winner with a single to score Hampton, who reached base via a one-out single.

Hampton finished with two hits and two runs scored. Davis, Laninga and Howard each singled.

On the mound, Hampton started and went three innings, allowing two runs while striking out four. Laninga picked up the win in relief, giving up one run over two innings with two strikeouts.

Otsego was led by Ray, who drove in two runs with one hit, while Perry, Hildebrand and Matthew Jackson each added a hit.

Jackson took the tough-luck loss, allowing just the run in the bottom of the fifth in four innings of work. He allowed three hits with three walks. Bailey started for Otsego and worked a third of an inning, allowing three runs on two his and two walks.

Allegan track starts season strong

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HAMILTON—It was a promising start to the outdoor season for the Allegan track and field teams at the Hamilton Early Season Invitational on Monday, March 30.

The Allegan girls placed fourth overall with 64 points, while the boys finished sixth with 34 points in the early-season meet.

The girls were highlighted by a record-breaking performance from Bailee Dilley, who set a new school record in the pole vault with a clearance of 11-1. The mark was also a personal best and earned her meet champion honors.

Dilley added to her strong showing by recording three additional personal records in the 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash and long jump, finishing in the top four in all three events.

Jayden VandenAkker also had a standout night, capturing first-place finishes in the 100-meter hurdles, 300-meter hurdles and high jump. Her high jump mark of 5-0 was also a new personal best.

Anna Billman turned in a strong effort in the 1,600-meter run, setting a personal record with a time of 6:51.93 in just her second race of the season.

The meet also marked the varsity debut for Ireland Dewey.

On the boys side, Allegan capped the night with a first-place finish in the 1,600-meter relay, as the team of Kellan Chalupa, Loghan Murphy, Brody McDade and Levi Earl closed out the meet with a win.

McDade added a third-place finish in the 100 and placed eighth in the 200, while Ezra Smith cleared 10-6 in the pole vault to take third.

Murphy placed fourth in the 800 with a time of 2:13.19, and Chalupa finished sixth in the 1,600 while setting a personal record of 4:43.34.

Several other Tigers recorded personal bests, including Thomas Sigler in the 3,200, Earl in the 200, John DeLaet in both the pole vault and 200 and Hauk Henrickson in the discus.

Allegan will return to action April 15 following spring break.

Tigers earn shutout over Black River

Sienna Cariker controls the ball for Allegan. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Allegan girls soccer team picked up a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Holland Black River on Friday, March 27, handing the visitors their first loss of the season.

Black River entered the match at 3-0, but the Tigers were able to capitalize early and then hold firm the rest of the way in cold and windy conditions.

The lone goal came in the first half, when sophomore Elana Byers delivered a well-placed through ball to the wing. Fellow sophomore Aubrey Fulton used her speed to get behind the defense and finished the play with about 20 minutes remaining before halftime.

From there, Allegan's defense took over.

Senior goalkeeper Mya Corbett anchored the back line, using strong positioning and making several key saves to preserve the shutout.

Allegan created additional scoring opportunities in the second half, but was unable to add to its lead, with several shots narrowly missing the target. Still, the Tigers maintained their composure and did enough defensively to secure the win.

"This win marks my first career varsity win as head coach, and I couldn't be prouder of the way the girls competed and executed the game plan," Allegan coach Stu McLean said. "It was a great team effort against a strong Black River side."

B&C TROPHY and Apparel, Inc. ATHLETE of the WEEK

Audrey Lingbeek
Otsego
Softball

Otsego senior softball standout Audrey Lingbeek showed off her considerable talents during the Bulldogs' Wolverine Conference doubleheader with Plainwell on Monday, March 30.

In the first game, Lingbeek tossed a 3-inning perfect game with seven strikeouts. In the second game, she hit for the cylce, going 4-for-4 with a double, a triple and a home run.

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Vikings splits with Lumen Christi

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HOPKINS — The Hopkins baseball team bounced back from a tough opener to salvage a split in a doubleheader against Jackson Lumen Christi, and also picked up a win earlier in the week against Wayland.

After falling 13-0 in the first game against Lumen Christi, the Vikings responded with an 8-3 victory in the nightcap on Wednesday, March 25.

Hopkins broke things open with a four-run sixth inning and finished with eight runs on five hits. Kellen Ford led the way offensively with two hits and two RBIs, while Cruz Hitzler and Adam Halsted each added a hit and drove in a run. Braydon Smigiel and Brayden Maher also scored runs in the win.

On the mound, Trent Smith earned the win, allowing two runs over four innings while striking out six. Smigiel closed things out, tossing three innings and allowing one run while striking out two.

Earlier in the week, Hopkins picked up a 3-1 win over Wayland on Tuesday, March 24.

The Vikings scored all three of their runs in the sixth inning to break a scoreless tie. Ford had a hit and drove in two runs, while Smith and Hitzler each added a hit and scored a run.

Ford was dominant on the mound, tossing five shutout innings while allowing just two hits and striking out nine. Merek Zapolnik worked the final two innings in relief to secure the win.

For Wayland, Gavin Mulder led the offense with a hit and an RBI, while Will Lodenstein and Lown also recorded hits. Ford added a hit and scored the team's lone run.

Kellen Ford prepares to deliver a pitch for Hopkins. (Photo provided)

Hamilton tennis upends Parma

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Hamilton girls tennis team earned a hard-fought 5-3 victory over Parma Western in a non-conference matchup.

The Hawkeyes picked up key points in both singles and doubles play to secure the team win.

Hamilton's doubles teams led the way, with Sophia Blauwkamp and Erin Meiste winning at No. 1 doubles, Taylor Heer and Maddie Jipping earning a victory at No. 2 doubles, and Allie VanOmmen and Adele Pycraft adding another point at No. 4 doubles.

In singles action, Kylie Rietema captured a win at No. 3 singles, while Billie Lucas secured a victory at No. 4 singles.

Overall, Hamilton showed depth across its lineup in earning the win.

"All of the players fought hard in their matches," Hamilton assistant coach Lexi Mack said.

Plainwell soccer falls to Rockford

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—The Plainwell girls soccer team faced a tough test Monday, March 30, squaring off against Division 1 opponent Rockford.

The Trojans fell 6-0 in that matchup, running into a strong Rams squad, but the game provided an early-season measuring stick against high-level competition.

Prior to that, Plainwell had put together a pair of impressive performances.

The Trojans rolled to a 9-0 win over Hastings on March 27, showcasing a balanced offensive attack.

Anna Eldred led the way with four goals, while Alyanna Eldred added a goal and three assists. Lucy Benson, Shea Hodapp, Raygan Truitt and Leighla Weldon also found the back of the net. Hodapp, Alyana Eldred and Weldon contributed assists as Plainwell controlled play throughout.

Plainwell also earned a 5-1 win over Kalamazoo Central on March 25.

Aubrey Witt, Alyana Eldred, Anna Eldred, Lucy Benson and Ella Brydges each scored for the Trojans. Hodapp, Alyana Eldred, Brydges and Nooney were credited with assists in the win.

Hamilton baseball wins three games

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The Hamilton baseball team put together a strong stretch to open the season, picking up three wins in as many outings.

The most recent of those wins came on Monday, March 30, as the Hawkeyes bested Allegan 10-2.

Owen Brown, Jakin Cozzello and Keegan Springer each had two hits to lead the Hamilton offense. Caleb Oosterink drove in two runs, while Marc Brower and Brown both scored twice.

Brower earned the win on the mound, tossing four innings while allowing just two hits and no earned runs. He struck out eight. Andrew Plockmeyer pitched the final three innings, giving up one hit and striking out two.

On Thursday, March 26, Hamilton posted a 7-4 win over Zeeland East.

Cozzello paced the offense, going 2-for-3 with three RBIs. Brown picked up the win in relief, throwing five innings while allowing two hits and no runs. He struck out one and walked one.

The Hawkeyes also earned a 17-2 win over Saugatuck on Wednesday, March 25.

Brown had a big day at the plate, finishing 1-for-2 with a three-run home run and seven RBIs. Oosterink, Dylan Blauwkamp, Springer and Brower each doubled, while Oosterink and Brower both scored four runs.

Fennville softball prevails

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

KALAMAZOO—The Fennville softball team turned in a dominant performance in its game against Hackett Catholic on Wednesday, March 25, earning a 15-3 win in Kalamazoo.

Lily Achterhof led the way in the circle, picking up the win while striking out five and allowing just one earned run.

Offensively, Fennville produced a balanced attack. Marynn Winne finished with two hits and two RBIs, while Amiyah Johnson also drove in a pair of runs. Sena Kamekona, Mackenzie McIliwain, Claudia Rasmussen and Hayden Johnson each added a hit in the victory.

With contributions throughout the lineup and a strong pitching effort, the Blackhawks put together a complete performance in the win.

Fennville track opens season at Hamilton

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HAMILTON—The Fennville track and field teams turned in a solid start to the season at the Hamilton Early Season Invite, with both the boys and girls teams scoring 36 points.

Several Blackhawks delivered strong early-season performances, including a number of personal records.

On the boys side, Atticus Boeve led the way in the 800-meter run, placing third with a personal-best time of 2:11. Gabe Gonzalez also set a personal record in the event, finishing sixth in 2:16.

Fennville's 4x800 relay team of Boeve, Jaciel Ruiz, David Morales and Gonzalez placed second with a time of 9:38, while the 4x100 relay team of Ashton Halcomb, Kolten Hagger, Carter Thompson and Julian Wiemer took first in 47.02.

On the girls side, Isabell Sliter placed third in the 1,600-meter run with a time of 5:36, while Sanija Ballman finished fourth in the 100-meter hurdles in 19.78.

Macy Samp turned in one of the top performances of the meet, placing in three events. She was second in the pole vault (8-0) and the 100 (13.47), and took first in the 200-meter dash in 28.17.

Otsego tennis posts wins over Wayland, Marshall

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

OTSEGO — The Otsego girls tennis team picked up a pair of strong wins over the past week, highlighted by a decisive victory over Wayland.

The Bulldogs defeated Wayland 7-1 on Monday, March 30, using a balanced effort across both singles and doubles to improve their record to 4-1-1 on the season.

Hailey Burd led the way at No. 1 singles, earning a commanding 6-2, 6-2 win over Wayland's Teagan Robinson. Ellie Korringa and Lydia Griffith added straight-set victories at No. 2 and No. 3 singles, respectively.

Otsego also found success in doubles play.

At No. 1 doubles, the team of Sara McCaw and Stella Houseman secured a 6-3, 6-2 victory. Mila Garrett and Hope Stender delivered one of the more dramatic moments of the match at No. 2 doubles, rallying from a 1-5 deficit in the second set to win 7-5.

At No. 4 doubles, Emma Gilson and Brooklynn Cockerel clinched a win with strong play in a second-set tiebreaker, with Gilson's consistency and Cockerel's net play proving to be key.

Otsego opened the week with a 6-2 home victory over Marshall on Tuesday, March 24.

The Bulldogs picked up key wins at No. 2, 3 and 4 singles, with Korringa, Alie Bronson and Griffith each earning victories.

In doubles, Houseman and McCaw controlled play at No. 1 doubles, while Garrett and Stender used strong serving and return games to win at No. 2 doubles.

Cockerel also earned her first varsity victory at No. 4 doubles alongside Gilson.

"The girls had a strong performance tonight and showed improved confidence on the court," Otsego coach Melissa Garrett said.

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Allegan tennis takes first place at home invitational

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

In an event loaded with Division 4 powerhouses, the Allegan girls tennis team proved it could go toe-to-toe with anyone.

The host Tigers edged NorthPointe Christian to win the Allegan Invitational on Saturday at the Gary Ellis Courts, finishing with 20 points to the Mustangs' 18 in a tightly contested field that included four teams ranked in the top eight in Division 4.

In addition to Allegan and NorthPointe Christian, the field included St. Catherine, Grand Rapids West Catholic, Whitehall and Black River.

St. Catherine finished third with 12 points, followed by West Catholic (11), Whitehall (8) and Black River (3).

The outcome came down to the final match of the day at No. 4 doubles.

With Allegan holding a slim 19-18 lead after the other flights had wrapped up, the team of Kaylee Haas and Hailey Gauthier found itself in a decisive 10-point tiebreaker. The duo delivered under pressure, pulling out a 10-8 win to secure the outright championship for the Tigers.

Allegan also went 4-3 in head-to-head matchups against NorthPointe Christian.

Addy Fales led the way at No. 1 singles, claiming the championship with straight-set wins in each of her matches, including a 6-1, 6-4 victory over NorthPointe Christian in the finals.

The Tigers added three more flight titles in doubles.

At No. 2 doubles, the team of Taylor Fuller and Hanna Kievit captured the championship, while Sophia Augustine and Emma Scheffler took first at No. 3 doubles.

Haas and Gauthier's clutch performance secured the No. 4 doubles title.

Camdyn Drozd finished runner-up at No. 2 singles, while Madison Cook and Ireland Dewey placed second at No. 1 doubles.

Kendall Halstead (No. 3 singles) and Ava Thompson (No. 4 singles) each placed third for Allegan, adding to the team's depth throughout the lineup.

Serenity Puente and Alexys Blank finished fifth at No. 5 doubles, while Haley Mellon and Alice Tange placed fourth at the second No. 5 doubles flight.

Members of the Allegan girls tennis team were all smiles after winning the Allegan Invitational. (Photo provided)

Girls Tennis Season Preview:

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor]

ALLEGAN

With a deep, experienced lineup and plenty of talent across the board, Allegan enters the 2026 season with high expectations—and a target on its back.

Coming off a season that included conference and regional championships along with a sixth-place finish at the Division 4 State Finals, the Tigers return the bulk of that roster and appear poised for another strong run.

"We certainly have a target on our back for the conference and regional outlook," Allegan coach Damien Arthur said. "This is one of the most talented teams I have had in my tenure, and we have a legitimate shot at a state runner-up finish this spring if we stay determined and healthy."

Leading the way is senior Addy Fales at No. 1 singles, while sophomore Kendall Halstead is expected to compete at No. 3 singles. Freshman Camdyn Drozd steps into the No. 2 singles spot, highlighting a singles lineup that mixes youth with high-level upside.

"Don't look down on our youth on the singles side," Arthur said. "We have talent there with lots of upside."

Experience is especially evident on the doubles side, where Allegan returns a veteran group that includes seniors Madison Cook and junior Ireland Dewey at No. 1 doubles, seniors Hanna Kievit and Taylor Fuller at No. 2 doubles, and seniors Sophia Augustine and Emma Scheffler at No. 3 doubles. Junior Kaylee Haas is back at No. 4 doubles, joined by freshman Hailey Gauthier.

In total, the Tigers bring back five All-State caliber players in Fales, Dewey, Cook, Kievit and Fuller.

"Our doubles lineup alone has 17 seasons of varsity experience," Arthur said. "That's uncommon, and it showed in how we competed last season."

Additional depth comes from players such as junior Serenity Puente and freshman Addison Martin and Ava Thompson, giving Allegan flexibility throughout its lineup.

That depth will be key in what Arthur expects to be a competitive SAC/Lakeland Conference race.

"On paper, it looks like a two-horse race between us and Kalamazoo Christian," he said. "They return a lot of experience as well. Hackett could be a wild card, too."

Allegan finished 8-1-5 overall and 7-0-2 in conference play last season, and Arthur believes this year's team has the tools to build on that success.

"Our top 14 players can compete with anyone on our schedule," he said. "The girls know what they want to accomplish, and they do a great job of taking it one day at a time."

OTSEGO

With a mix of experienced returners and emerging talent, Otsego is aiming to be a factor in the conference race this season.

The Bulldogs, under second-year coach Melissa Garrett, bring back a solid core of players who have gained valuable varsity experience and continued to develop during the offseason.

"This team has a lot of grit and is ready to get out there and prove we have what it takes this season," Garrett said.

Leading the way is senior Hailey Burd, who returns to the No. 1 singles spot. Garrett said Burd's offseason work should pay dividends this spring.

"She's a consistent player with a lot of power behind her shots," Garrett said.

Senior Ellie Korringa, a four-year varsity player, also moves into the singles lineup, while junior Lydia Griffith returns for her third varsity season.

Sophomore Alie Bronson is expected to contribute at singles as well after making the switch from doubles.

In doubles play, Otsego features a strong No. 1 team in juniors Sara McCaw and Stella Houseman, with McCaw bringing a powerful serve and Houseman providing a strong presence at the net.

Seniors Hope Stender and Laney Sweet add experience to the doubles lineup, with Garrett highlighting Stender's speed and net play and Sweet's consistency on the court.

Otsego also welcomes a group of newcomers who could make an impact, including freshman Mila Garrett and junior Rachel Breese.

"Mila has a tough serve and a competitive drive, and Rachel brings a positive attitude and strong work ethic," Garrett said.

Additional players such as sophomores Emma Gilson and Juni Sission and freshman Brooklynn Cockerel are new to the varsity level but have already shown potential.

Garrett said the Bulldogs are entering the season in a strong position thanks to their offseason work.

"Many of these players hit all winter and played in tournaments, so we're starting the season in a great spot," she said.

Otsego showed that progress during a preseason scrimmage against Portage Central and Allegan, competing well against strong opponents.

The Bulldogs finished 9-3-3 last season and claimed the Plainwell Quad title. Korringa also earned first-team all-conference honors and won a regional championship at No. 4 singles.

With a competitive mindset and continued development, Garrett believes Otsego can be in the mix this season.

"We expect to be in the running for the conference title," she said.

WAYLAND

Experience and leadership should be strengths for Wayland this season, as the Wildcats return a large senior class and a solid core of varsity contributors.

Wayland brings back several key players, including seniors Teagan Robinson, Emily Omness, Hayden Keena, Maizie Bollone and Charlotte Markoski, along with juniors Lauren Bultsma and Hannah Bogema.

That experience provides a strong foundation for a team focused on steady improvement throughout the spring.

"We're excited about the mix of experience and new talent on this year's team," Wayland coach Seth Beat said. "With a large senior class, leadership and experience will be key strengths for us."

Wayland also adds a group of newcomers who have already shown the ability to compete at the varsity level, including sophomores Rhegan Ustishen and Alivia Dreyer along with seniors Alayna Rookus, Kendra Moore and Zoie Ritchie.

"This group brings a lot of energy," Beat said. "They've had strong performances on JV and are ready to contribute."

Depth and team chemistry are expected to be key strengths for the Wildcats, particularly with so many experienced players returning.

"One of our biggest strengths is our experience and depth," Beat said. "We also have strong team chemistry and players who are willing to compete and improve."

As with many teams, developing consistency—especially among newer varsity players—will be an area of focus as the season progresses.

"We'll continue working on gaining match experience and building consistency across all flights," Beat said.

The conference race is expected to be competitive, but Beat believes Wayland has the pieces to be in the mix.

"Our conference should be very competitive this season," he said. "We believe we can be competitive and put ourselves in a solid position as the season progresses."

Wayland finished in the middle of the conference standings a year ago, but with added experience and depth, the Wildcats are aiming to build on that foundation this spring.

Sophomore Alie Bronson is one of the returning players for Otsego. (Photo provided)

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Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

April 5, 1951

Tigers open baseball year at Kalamazoo: Allegan high school will open its 1951 baseball season this afternoon when they travel to Kalamazoo to meet the State High Cubs. This game will open a 12 game schedule that coach Peckham crew.

Peckham announced that veteran pitcher Bob Gilpin and little Don Godfrey behind the plate will provide the starting battery in Thursday's encounter.

A few of the starting positions are still open due to cold, wet weather which has prevented Coach Peckham to look the boys over in action.

Around the infield it will be Warren DeLano on the initial sack and he should do well this year as he improved considerable last year. Each of the other positions are being fought for by two or more players. Jack Miller and George Myers, both lettermen are battling it out for second base with Jack Nash and Soph Roger Newman competing for shortstop. Jack Wells, veteran third sacker, is being given a battle by Freshman Roger Smith.

April 1, 1976

Loss of arms no handicap: Charlene Kuehn drove her car into a neighbor's driveway about 4 p.m. the other day and hopped out of her car to talk with a friend.

Nothing particularly unusual about the act — except that when Mrs. Kuehn closed the car door she used metal hooks instead of hands.

An employee of the Van Buren County Intermediate School District, Mrs. Kuehn lost her hands and arms when a youngster and now teaches children who cannot attend public schools.

Does she consider the loss of her hands a handicap? No, she says, quickly.

In fact, she can knit with her toes, play the organ, cook and keep house — the fact that she lost her arms at such an early age, she said, has helped her make the adjustments necessary to cope with the situation.

The accident happened in August 1946 after she and her sister persuaded her father, Mert Fish, to let them ride the horses while he was mowing a field of hay near Rockford. Both girls fell off the horses, Charlene falling into the mower.

Four years old at the time she was fitted for artificial limbs the next January, the first of a series of limbs needed as she grew. Later, her mother told her it seemed there was never anything she couldn't do that her sisters were able to and that as a youngster she never needed special training.

April 5, 2001

Hobby becomes passion: A tattered sweater may remind one of raking leaves and the smell of roasting sticks and hotdogs. A romantic evening could be told through a vase of dried roses. Homemade quilts of Barbara Perrin tell of her work ethic, dedication, values and loving devotion for her family and friends.

"The reason I learned how to sew was because my mom wanted me to help out."

Perrin has been a resident on the outskirts of Pullman her whole life. Perrin's mother, Barbara, began her oldest daughter sewing at age 9. However, Perrin's grandmother, Ann Radseck Latchaw, had a beautiful piece of yellow material that she gave Perrin at 5-years-old to do with whatever she wished. Although the outfit made wasn't a fashion statement, Perrin learned the valuable lesson of selfless love from her grandmother.

Perrin participated in 4-H with instructors Ella Hogle and Marge Jerue. She said of Jerue, "Had it not been for her, I wouldn't have learned to sew. She took me aside and helped me."

Perrin loved her new talent and when she wasn't helping on the family's fruit farm, she was sewing. Her first project was an apron. George Latchaw, Perrin's father, took pride in his daughter's work and aided her in her first business. Latchaw worked in Allegan at Perrigo and the workers would purchase the aprons for $3 to $4. Perrin's next business venture was selling her own crafted dolls. She later went on to Western Michigan University to receive a bachelor of science degree in home economics education.

"I saw a quilt that I liked and knew the only way to get that was to make it myself," she said.

In 1995, Perrin found the love of quilting. She became a member of the West Michigan Quilt Guild and has participated in numerous competitions, receiving best of show for years in a row, $1,000 won in one show and the honor of having her work displayed at the American Quilter's Society 17th Annual International Competition from April 25 to April 28.

April 8, 2021

Clippers fall to Fowler in state quarterfinals: Fowler's Riley sisters made life difficult for Martin in the Division 4 girls basketball state quarterfinal game played at Loy Norrix High School on Monday, April 5.

Junior Mia Riley and sophomore Emma Riley combined for 36 points as the Eagles handed the Clippers a 64-26 loss.

Martin, which was making its first quarterfinal appearance since 1995, finished the season at 12-6.

"We didn't play our best basketball tonight," second-year Martin coach Ben Schipper said. "With as good as we have been playing lately, we were hoping to put together a better effort. But we just weren't able to execute.

"Fowler is an incredible team. We knew they were great at getting to the rim and were aggressive on defense, but they overwhelmed us tonight. Our offense just could not get into the attack mode we needed against their switching defense."

Mia Riley starred for Fowler early, slashing her way to the basket repeatedly in the opening quarter. She finished with 13 points in the opening stanza—including eight in a row to end the quarter—as part of her game-best 20 points.

Martin trailed 20-6 at the end of the first quarter.

Emma Riley, meanwhile, did most of her work from the outside, knocking down four 3-pointers as part of a 16-point effort. As a team, the Eagles buried 10 triples.

"Defensively, we were hoping to take away their 3-point threats and rotate to protect the rim on the backside, then scramble out if needed," Schipper said. "Unfortunately, (Mia Riley) and their guards got to the rim much more than we hoped and their shooters were lights out. Congratulations to them on an outstanding effort."

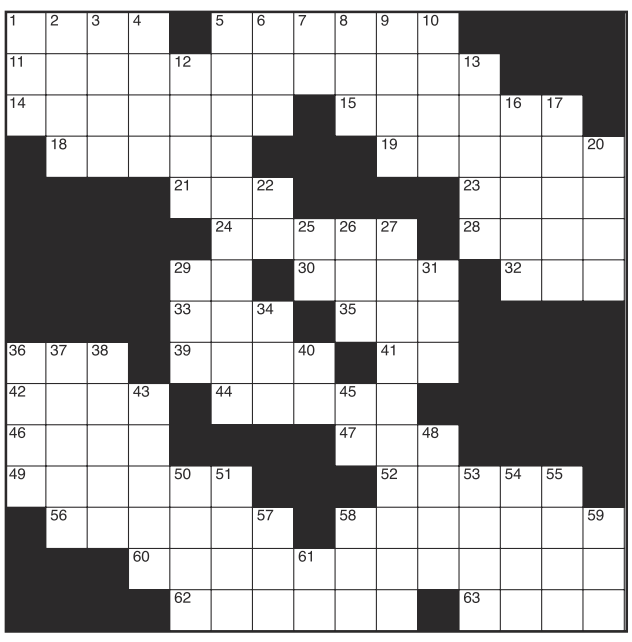
Speaking of outstanding efforts, freshman Makala Goddard scored 14 points for the Clippers, including a quartet of 3-pointers.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

Cirsten Coburn looks for an open teammate in Martin's quarterfinal game. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Barbara Perrin sits "wrapped up in her work." Quilts are (from left to right) Jamie's Jubilee and Rich's Millennium Stars. (Picture by Janelle Jackson)

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Absence of difficulty
5. Preserve a dead body
11. Gratitude
14. The act of coming together again
15. More cushy
18. Visionaries
19. Large fish-eating bird
21. Indicates near
23. Former CIA and CIA critic
24. Icelandic poems
28. Pop
29. Hammer is one
30. Selfs
32. Thyroid-stimulating hormone
33. Nowhere to be found
35. Electronic data processing
36. Drivers' licenses and passports are two
39. Snake-like fishes
41. Air Force
42. Popular personal computers
44. Stages in ecological succession
46. Wings
47. In the center
49. Pleasantly smooth
52. Jeweled headdress
56. In slow tempo
58. __ Falls
60. Reiterations
62. Eras
63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN
1. Body part
2. Mimics
3. Expel or eject (variant sp.)
4. Sea eagle
5. Taxonomic category
6. Chinese languages
7. Mr. T's 'A-Team' character
8. Consumed
9. Chinese dynasty
10. NFL legend Randy
12. Ireland
13. Palm trees with creeping roots
16. Fungal disease
17. Tall, slender-leaved plants
20. Affirmative! (slang)
22. It says who you are
25. Atlantic coast state
26. Grow older
27. Associations
29. Woman (French)
31. Sunscreen rating
34. Brew
36. Leader
37. Indigo bush genus
38. Burn with a hot liquid
40. Junior's father
43. Mackerel genus
45. Morning
48. Straight line from side to side (abbr.)
50. Type of molding
51. Small, thin or twisted bunch
53. Worn by exposure to the weather
54. Mars crater
55. Humanities
57. Relating to the ears
58. 'To the __ degree'
59. Residue when something is burned
61. It cools a home

Deaths

Feb. 13, 2026
LESLIE MAY JOHNSON, 74, Ganges Twp.

Feb. 25, 2026
KATHLEEN MARCHELLE SNYDER, 70, Allegan

March 9, 2026
MAXINE GRACE BARNES, 90, Allegan

March 12, 2026
RAMON ANTONIO GAYTAN, 78, Clyde Twp.

March 13, 2026
JOHN CHARLES CLARK, 80, Fillmore Twp.
LAUREN RICHARD ZAHN, 86, Laketown Twp.
ROBERT STANLEY MORGAN JR, 61, Trowbridge Twp.

March 14, 2026
JACK LEE WENDT, 100, Allegan Twp.
KATHERINE TAYLOE COLLINS, 82, Douglas

March 15, 2026
JACOB JAMES NYENHUIS, 41, Salem Twp

March 16, 2026
RUTH IIRENE SODERQUIST, 95, Allegan Twp.

March 17, 2026
GERALD LEE NAPIERALSKI, 68, Dorr Twp.
HORST HEINZ KUKULIES, 89, Hopkins Twp.

March 18, 2026
JEFFREY SCOTT SPEER, 54, Holland

March 19, 2026
TAMARA SUE HOPPE, 66, Otsego Twp.

March 21, 2026
BRENDA LOU WORKMAN, 75, Otsego

March 23, 2026
JULIAN SALE COX, 79, Saugatuck Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between March 17 and March 25:

MICHAEL JAMES WAITE SR, Allegan, and **REBECCA MARIE SCHELL**, Allegan

KYLE PHILLIPS STRONG, Otsego, and **KENDALYN MARIE HASKINS**, Otsego

BRADLEY ALAN VANMELLE, Allegan, and **LEAH JEAN GATES**, Allegan

JESSICA GEARY, Allegan, and **MARTIN ANDREW STEVENS**, Allegan

KAITLYN ROSA BENGOCHEA, Otsego, and **ZACHARY AARON KIZZIAR**, Otsego

YADENIS LAZARA HERNANDEZ VENTURA, Fennville, and **MIGUEL ANTONIO DIAZ PRIETO**, Fennville

TYLER VAUGHN RALSTON, Hopkins, and **ALEXA RENE KLABUSICH**, Allegan

SHAWN ROGER AUDERER, Martin, and **STACEY JEANNE BETKE**, Martin

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

			8	4		2		9
	9	7			5		1	
	7				3	5		1
	2				1			3
4				6				
1	3							2
			6					
		8	2					4

(See Solution Page B7)

Public Notices

NOTICE OF SALE PURSUANT TO JUDGMENT OF FORECLOSURE SALE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Rayheim R. Robinson, single man, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Hancock Mortgage Partners, LLC dated September 29, 2022 and recorded September 30, 2022 in Instrument Number 2022008529 St. Joseph County Records, Michigan. Said mortgage is now held by Planet Home Lending, LLC by assignment. In pursuance and by virtue of a Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief entered for Plaintiff, Planet Home Lending, LLC against Defendant, Rayheim R. Robinson in Case No. 25-375-CH of St. Joseph County Circuit Court, the below premises shall be foreclosed and sold by public auction. Said Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief was entered on the 16th day of January, 2026, wherein there is claimed to be due on said date the sum of One Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Three Hundred Forty-Nine Dollars and Seventy Cents ($171,349.70), plus sums advanced for taxes, insurance and other fees incurred and allowed by said mortgage. Under the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief and related statutes, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by sale of the mortgage premises pursuant to the Judgment of Foreclosure of Mortgage and Declaratory Relief and that the sale shall be at public auction to the highest bidder, at public venue, at the place of holding the circuit court within St. Joseph County, on the 30th day of April, 2026 at 10:00 AM, Eastern Standard Time, the following described property, viz: All certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Village of White Pigeon, County of St. Joseph and State of Michigan, described as follows: PARCEL 1: THAT PART OF THE WEST 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP 8 SOUTH, RANGE 12 WEST, DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS: COMMENCING ON THE NORTHERLY SIDE OF CHICAGO STREET 10 FEET WESTERLY OF THE SOUTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 34 OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, MICHIGAN, IN LIBER A OF DEEDS, PAGE 16; THENCE WESTERLY ON THE NORTHERLY LINE OF CHICAGO STREET 96.4 FEET; THENCE NORTH 160 FEET; THENCE NORTH 86° EAST TO A POINT 10 FEET, ON SAID LINE, FROM THE WESTERLY LINE OF LOT 33 OF SAID PLAT; THENCE SOUTH 04° EAST 159.55 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. TAX ID# 75-045-777-007-01 PARCEL 2: LOT 33 OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON, ACCORDING TO THE PLAT OF RECORD IN THE OFFICE OF THE REGISTER OF DEEDS FOR ST. JOSEPH COUNTY, MICHIGAN, IN LIBER A OF DEEDS, PAGES 15 AND 16. ASLO, COMMENCING AT THE SOUTHWESTERLY CORNER OF SAID LOT 33, THENCE WESTERLY ON THE SOUTHERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 33 EXTENDED, 10 FEET; THENCE NORTHERLY, PARALLEL WITH THE WESTERLY LINE OF SAID LOT 33 TO NORTHERLY LINE OF LOT 33 EXTENDED; THENCE EASTERLY TO NORTHWEST CORNER OF LOT 33; THENCE SOUTHERLY ON WESTERLY LINE OF LOT 33 TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. BEING DESCRIBED ON THE COUNTY TAX ROLL AS: LOT 33, ALSO STRIP 10 WIDE ADJOINING LOT 33 ON WEST SIDE, ORIGINAL PLAT OF THE VILLAGE OF WHITE PIGEON. TAX ID # 75-045-200-037-00 Commonly Known As: 300 W Chicago Road, White Pigeon, MI, 49099 and 207 N Melody Street, White Pigeon, Michigan 49099 Tax ID: 75 045 777 007 01 and 75 045 200 037 00 This property may be redeemed during the six (6) months following the sale. Dated: February 27, 2026 Orlans Law Group PLLC /s/Sogol I. Plagany Attorneys for Plaintiff Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084 Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400 File No. 25-006493

(03-06)(04-10)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Thalious B. Green, a married man and Phyllis J. Green, a married woman as joint tenants with right of survivorship

Original Mortgagee: Lakeland Mortgage Corporation

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PNC Bank, National Association, successor in interest to National City Real Estate Services, LLC, successor by merger to National City Mortgage, Inc., formerly known as National City Mortgage Co.

Date of Mortgage: February 8, 2003

Date of Mortgage Recording: March 28, 2003

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $170,854.35

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Manlius, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Part Of The Northeast 1/4 Of Section 33, Town 3 North, Range 15 West, Manlius Township, Allegan County, Michigan, Being Described As: Commencing At The South 1/4 Corner Of Said Section 33: Thence North 01 Degree 44 Minutes 03 Seconds East 2228.02 Feet Along The North And South 1/4 Line Of Said Section 33; Thence South 88 Degrees 15 Minutes 57 Seconds East 658.40 Feet: Thence North 01 Degree 58 Minutes 39 Seconds East 405.44 Feet: Thence North 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds East 3.22 Feet; Thence South 87 Degrees 55 Minutes 59 Seconds East 661.93 Feet Along The East And West 1/4 Line Of Said Section 33; Thence North 01 Degrees 30 Minutes 31 Seconds East 465.00 Feet Along The East Line Of The East 1/2 Of The Southwest 1/4 Of The Northeast 1/4 Of Said Section 33 To The Point Of Beginning Of The Parcel Of Land Herein Described; Thence North 87 Degrees 55 Minutes 59 Seconds West 389.56 Feet; Thence North 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds East 74.89 Feet; Thence Northeasterly 59.31 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 100.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 33 Degrees 59 Minutes 02 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 18 Degrees 32 Minutes 38 Seconds East 58.45 Feet; Thence North 01 Degree 33 Minutes 07 Seconds East 79.72 Feet: Thence South 87 Degrees 49 Minutes 04 Seconds East 330.47 Feet; Thence South 01 Degree 30 Minutes 31 Seconds West 197.58 Feet Along Said East Line To The Point Of Beginning. Subject To Easements, Restrictions And Rights-Of-Way Of Record. Subject To And Together With An Easement For Ingress, Egress And Utilities Over Part Of The East 1/2 Of Section 33, Town 3 North, Range 15 West, Manlius Township, Allegan County, Michigan, Being Described As: Commencing At The South 1/4 Corner Of Said Section 33; Thence North 01 Degree 44 Minutes 03 Seconds East 2378.02 Feet Along The North And South 1/4 Line Of Said Section 33 To The Point Of The Parcel Of Land Herein Described; Thence Continuing Along Said Line North 01 Degree 44 Minutes 03 Seconds East 66.00 Feet; Thence South 88 Degrees 15 Minutes 57 Seconds East 418.10 Feet; Thence Northeasterly 65.72 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 67.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 56 Degrees 11 Minutes 54 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 63 Degrees 38 Minutes 06 Seconds East 63.11 Feet; Thence North 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds East 850.09 Feet; Thence Northeasterly 39.74 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 67.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 33 Degrees 59 Minutes 02 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 18 Degrees 32 Minutes 38 Seconds East 39.16 Feet; Thence North 01 Degree 33 Minutes 07 Seconds East 80.08 Feet; Thence Northwesterly 35.79 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 50.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 41 Degrees 00 Minutes 52 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears North 18 Degrees 57 Minutes 18 Seconds West 35.03 Feet; Thence Clockwise 274.40 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Right With A Radius Of 60.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 262 Degrees 01 Minute 43 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 88 Degrees 28 Minutes 53 Seconds East 90.55 Feet; Thence Southwesterly 35.79 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Left With A Radius Of 50.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 41 Degrees 00 Minutes 52 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 22 Degrees 03 Minutes 33 Seconds West 35.03 Feet; Thence South 01 Degree 33 Minutes 07 Seconds West 80.08 Feet; Thence Southwesterly 78.89 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Right With A Radius Of 133.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 33 Degrees 59 Minutes 02 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 18 Degrees 32 Minutes 38 Seconds West 77.74 Feet; Thence South 35 Degrees 32 Minutes 09 Seconds West 850.09 Feet; Thence Southwesterly 130.45 Feet Along The Arc Of A Curve To The Right With A Radius Of 133.00 Feet Through A Central Angle Of 56 Degrees 11 Minutes 54 Seconds The Long Chord Of Which Bears South 63 Degrees 38 Minutes 06 Seconds West 125.29 Feet; Thence North 88 Degrees 15 Minutes 57 Seconds West 418.10 Feet To The Point Of Beginning.

Common street address (if any): 5465 Dalton Rdg, Fennville, MI 49408-8447

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: March 12, 2026

Trott Law, P.C.
31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145
Farmington Hills, MI 48334
(248) 642-2515
1587201
(03-12)(04-02)

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
48th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Allegan COUNTY
Case Number 26-71768-CH
Matthew Antkoviak P-5944
SUMMONS

Plaintiffs name, address, and telephone number

Mildred E. Whitcomb Revocable Trust

Plaintiff's attorney bar number, address, and telephone number

Michael J. Becker; Orton Tooman PC P81132
314 Trowbridge St.
Allegan, M1 49010
269-673-2136
v

Defendant's name, address, and telephone number

The Estate of Margaret Staal; and each of her unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns.

Civil Case

There is no other pending or resolved civil action arising out of the same transaction or occurrence as allegedin the complaint.

SUMMONS

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT: In the name of the people of the State of Michigan you are notified:

1. You are being sued.

2. YOU HAVE 21 DAYS after receiving this summons and a copy of the complaint to file a written answer with the court and serve a copy on the other party or take other lawful action with the court (28 days if you were served by mail or you were served outside of Michigan).

3. If you do not answer or take other action within the time allowed, judgment may be entered against you for the relief. demanded in the complaint.

4, If you require accommodations to use the court because of a disability or if you require a foreign language interpreter to help you fully particaipate in court proceedings, please contact the court immediately to make arraingments.

Issue Date: 03/06/2026

Experation date: 06/04/2026

STATE OF MICHIGAN
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
COUNTY BUILDING,
ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN 49010
File No. 26-71768-CH
THE MILDRED E. WHITCOMB REVOCABLE TRUST,
Plaintiff
Vs
The ESTATE of MARGARET STAAL;
and each of her unknown Heirs, Devisees and Assigns,
Defendant
Michael J. Becker P81132
ORTON, TOOMAN, HALE, McKOWN & KIEL, P.C.
Attorneys for Plaintiff
314 Trowbridge St., PO Box 239
Allegan, MI 49010
(269) 673-2136

ORDER FOR SERVICE OF PROCESS BY PUBLICATION

At a session of court held in the courthouse in Allegan County, Michigan, on 3/10/2026

Present: Honorable Matthew Antkoviak P-59449, Circuit Court Judge

Plaintiff filed a verified ex parte motion for service of process in the discretion of the court. After reading the verified motion, the court finds that Plaintiff has shown that service of process cannot reasonably be made on Defendant by the methods provided in MCR 2.105(A), in that Plaintiff has demonstrated diligent attempts to locate Defendant. The court further finds, pursuant to MCR 2.105(1), that service of process by publication is the best available method of service of process reasonably calculated to give Defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.

IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff must serve the Defendant by publication for three consecutive weeks in a newspaper located in Allegan County, Michigan.

Honorable Matthew Antkoviak P-59449

3-19 4-2

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under Section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M., on May 7, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Timothy L. Arndt Sr., ("Mortgagor"), gave a mortgage to Ignite Credit Union, successor by merger with Allegan Credit Union, fka Allegan Community Federal Credit Union., ("Mortgagee"), dated January 25, 2021, and recorded on May 31, 2023, in Liber 4860, on Page 25, Allegan County Records, Michigan. On the date of this notice, there is claimed to be due the principal of Forty-Six Thousand Six Hundred Six Dollars and 44/100 Dollars ($46,606.44) plus accrued interest at 5.99% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at the place of holding in the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan @ 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 7, 2026. Said premises are situated in the Township of Monterey, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: Part of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 2, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 Corner of said Section; thence North 89 degrees, 24 minutes West 550.00 feet along the South line of said SW 1/4; thence North 00 degrees, 18 minutes 41 seconds East 718.53 feet to the place of beginning; thence North 89 degrees, 24 minutes 00 seconds West 397.05 feet; thence North 02 degrees, 41 minutes 54 seconds East 233.0 feet; thence North 39 degrees 18 minutes 08 seconds West 145.94 feet; thence North 03 degrees, 51 minutes 54 seconds East 334.78 feet; thence South 89 degrees, 24 minutes 00 seconds East 297.65 feet; thence South 00 degrees, 18 minutes 41 seconds West 521.57 feet; thence South 89 degrees 24 minutes 00 seconds East 162.00 feet; thence S 00 degrees, 18 minutes, 41 seconds West 157.47 feet to the place of beginning. Together with an easement for Ingress and egress and utility purposes over a 66 foot wide strip of land the centerline of which is described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 Corner of Section 2, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, thence North 89 degrees, 24 minutes West 977.0 feet along the South line of said Section to the place of beginning of the centerline of said easement; thence North 02 degrees, 41 minutes, 54 seconds East 952.0 feet; thence North 39 degrees, 18 minutes 06 seconds West 145.94 feet; thence North 03 degrees 51 minutes 54 seconds East 334.78 feet; thence South 84 degrees, 25 minutes 06 seconds East 430.0 feet to the place of ending of said easement. Commonly: 3429 Arndts Dr., Hopkins, MI 49328—Tax Id #16-002-030-90 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under Section 600.3278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: March 19, 2026 Ignite Credit Union, Mortgagee Holzman Law, PLLC By: Charles J. Holzman Attorney for Mortgagee 28366 Franklin Road Southfield, Michigan 48034 (248)352-4340

(03-19)(04-16)

Notice of Foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM on April 16, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Chad Hudson and Tara Hudson, Husband and Wife Original Mortgagee: MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, AS NOMINEE FOR VAN DYK MORTGAGE CORPORATION Date of mortgage: November 10, 2016 Recorded on November 21, 2016, Book 4089, on Page 441. Foreclosing Assignee:

NOTICE

OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TESTING
For the May 5th, 2026 Election
County of Allegan, State of Michigan

To the qualified electors of the municipalities listed below:

Notice is hereby given that a Public Accuracy Test for the electronic equipment that will be used in Election Day Precincts for the May 5th, 2026, Election has been scheduled for Monday, April 6th, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the specified location listed below.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer programming used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of Michigan election law.

Watson Township
1895 118th Ave
Allegan, MI 49010
MaryAnn Baker

Monterey Township
1895 118th Ave
Allegan, MI 49010
Megan Frank

Notice

of Public Accuracy Test
For the May 5, 2026 School Election
County of Allegan, State of Michigan

TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF SALEM TOWNSHIP:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the May 5, 2026 School Election has been scheduled for: Thursday, April 16, 2026 @ 10:00 AM.

All Precincts and Counting Boards

SALEM TOWNSHIP HALL
3003 142ND AVE
Burnips, MI 49314

THE ACCURACY TEST is conducted to determine that the program and the computer being used to tabulate the results of the election count the votes in the manner prescribed by the law.

Renee Busscher, Clerk
Salem Township

Allegan County Sheriff's Office

Public Notice of Intent to Dispose of Firearms

The following is a list of firearms in evidence at the Sheriff's Office. If no valid ownership claim is received within (30) days of the date of public notice, the firearms listed will be disposed of. Please Note: These firearms are not for sale.

If you have a valid claim to any of these firearms, and are authorized to possess firearms, contact Lt. Mike Brown.

Contact Information:
Lt. Mike Brown
640 River St, Allegan, MI 49010
269-673-0500 X-4592 or mbrown@allegancounty.org.

Complaint#	Make	Model	Caliber	Serial#
22506-21	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	329-73680
7666-21	Beretta	Mod Nano pistol	9mm	NU028595
3210-20	Remington	Mod 870 shotgun	12ga	1172014V
19305-21	Maverick Arms	Mod 88 shotgun	12ga	MV18705B
15114-20	KSA	Mod Crickett rifle	22lr	CPR-12742
15114-20	Walther	Mod CCP pistol	9mm	WK121927
4706-20	SCCY	Mod CPX-1 pistol	9mm	708029
13663-19	S&W	Mod 64 revolver	.38	CHM5231
22506-21	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	329-73680
7383-19	Taurus	Mod PT111 pistol	9mm	TKS29467
5420-20	Sig-Sauer	Mod P365 pistol	9mm	66A721103
3338-21	Glock	Mod 42 pistol	.380	AAVH688
15986-18	Remington	Mod Sportsman 58 shotgun	12ga	71772V
15986-18	Winchester	Mod Ranger 120 shotgun	12ga	L1988970
15019-18	Mossberg	Mod slug barrel shotgun	12ga	R348067
12038-20	Hi-Point	Mod CF380 pistol	.380	P8068978
19121-21	S&W	Mod SD9VE pistol	9mm	FBV4718
13981-21	SCCY	Mod CPX-2 pistol	9mm	768422
5914-12	Hawes Fire Arms	Mod single action revolver	22lr	462002
2202-12	Taurus	Mod PT 1911 pistol	.45acp	NAM78120
8846-21	CZ	Mod P10 S pistol	9mm	UC02746
12996-21	Sig Sauer	Mod P320 pistol	9mm	58J041463
19305-21	Italy	Black powder revolver	.44	209290
12703-19	Kahr	Mod CM40 pistol	.40	JN0593
12703-19	Colt	Mod Automatic pistol	.25	43915
22215-21	S&W	Mod 64-8 revolver	.38spl	CXB6227
20190-21	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ACC725158

Complaint#	Make	Model	Caliber	Serial#
6522-20	Taurus	Mod 2" revolver	.38spl	MT87400
5663-20	Heritage	Mod Rough Rider revolver	22lr	HZ61147
3625-19	S&W	Mod Shield pistol w. laser	9mm	LFL9487
13878-20	Taurus	Mod G3 pistol	9mm	AAL070734
6765-20	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	TMS69742
4733-21	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P1754667
18501-21	Ruger	Mod Wrangler revolver	22lr	201-62618
9574-21	Ruger	Mod P95DC pistol	9mm	314-03079
19361-20	RIA	Mod M1911A 380 pistol	.380	RIA2091730
5128-19	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P1851123
12456-19	Ruger	Mod LC9s pistol	9mm	452-75644
1978-19	S&W	M&P45 pistol	.45acp	NBA4941
15639-19	Colt	Mod 1991A1 pistol	.45acp	2704048
15839-19	S&W	Mod M&P Shield pistol	.40cal	HLL8282
2952-22	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	TMB27988
11777-22	Beretta	Mod 21A pistol	.25	DAA222493
15193-22	Heritage Mfg	Mod Rough Rider revolver	.22lr	1BH523051
12089-22	Beretta	Mod 92FS pistol	9mm	L49359Z
7245-22	Hi-Point	Mod C9 pistol	9mm	P10018219
23740-22	S&W	Mod Bodyguard380 pistol	.380	EAT4040
6009-22	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ACK406995
23432-22	SCCY	Mod CPX-1 pistol	9mm	C022797
13403-22	Ruger	Mod LCP pistol	.380	373-39693
805-22	H&K	Mod USP compact pistol	9mm	27-170368
805-22	New England	Mod Pardner shotgun	20ga	NV259217
19216-22	SCYY	Mod CPX-2 pistol	9mm	C104486
14519-22	Taurus	Mod G3c pistol	9mm	ABH840831
22895-22	Taurus	Mod G2c pistol	9mm	ADD205452
12175-17	New England	Mod single shot shotgun	16ga	815234
15277-17	Remington	Mod 11-48 shotgun	12ga	5058824
14518-17	Mossberg	Mod 88 Maverick shotgun	12ga	MV0027331
8729-17	Mossberg	Mod Gamester shotgun	12ga	J384107
8729-17	Remington	Mod 870 Magnum shotgun	12ga	W631783M
1299-17	Stevens	Mod 94 shotgun	20ga	0511161
21613-17	Stevens	Mod 954 rifle	.22lr	L283213
21613-17	Winchester	Mod 1300 shotgun	12ga	L3133144
8431-17	Stevens	Mod 940E shotgun	12ga	none

Public Notices

LAKEVIEW LOAN SERVICING, LLC. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Sixty-Four Thousand Thirty-Seven and 49/100 Dollars ($164,037.49) Mortgaged premises: Located in the Township of Hopkins, ALLEGAN County and described as: UNIT 4, EAST LAKE RIDGE, ACCORDING TO THE MASTER DEED THEREOF, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 2025, PAGE 434, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS, AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO AND DESIGNATED AS ALLEGAN COUNTY CONDOMINIUM SUBDIVISION PLAN NO. 142, TOGETHER WITH RIGHTS IN GENERAL COMMON ELEMENTS AND LIMITED COMMON ELEMENTS AS SET FORTH IN SAID MASTER DEED AND AS DESCRIBED IN ACT 59 OF THE PUBLIC ACTS OF 1978, AS AMENDED. Commonly known as 2258 N EAST LAKE RD HOPKINS MI 49328 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961 pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. ALAW 5404 Cypress Center Drive, Suite 300, Tampa, FL 33609 (813) 221-4743 26-001818
(03-19)(04-09)

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM on MAY 7, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information.

Default has been made in the conditions of a mortgage made by Gary L Burnett, Jr. and Amber Burnett, to National City Mortgage, a division of National City Bank, Mortgagee, dated October 2, 2007 and recorded October 16, 2007 in Liber 3168, Page 933 Allegan County Records, Michigan. There is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of Sixty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Eighty-Six and 50/100 Dollars ($66,486.50).

Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at public venue at the place of holding the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan at 9:00 AM on MAY 7, 2026.

Said premises are located in the City of Otsego, Allegan County Michigan, and are described as:

Lot 75 of Raven's Addition to the Village (now City) of Otsego, Michigan, according to the recorded plat thereof.

309 Mckinley Street, Otsego, Michigan 49078

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA §600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale, pursuant to MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damage to the property during the redemption period. FinCEN reporting will be required of all successful purchasers, absent a lawful exemption.

Dated: March 19, 2026
File No. 26-000602
Firm Name: Orlans Law Group PLLC
Firm Address: 1650 West Big Beaver Road, Troy MI 48084
Firm Phone Number: (248) 502.1400
(03-19)(04-09)

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: JASON ALAN BELOT has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026 AT 10:00AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: JASON ALAN BELOT to JAIN ALICE BELOTE

4-2-26

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: HANNAH GRACE ELKIN has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026 AT 1:45 PM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: HANNAH GRACE ELKIN to HANNAH GRACE FISHER

4-2-26

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65666-DA and JUDGE
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Diane Lynne Greene, Deceased Date of Birth:*06-04-1954
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Diane Lynne Greene, died 05-22-2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Vicki Foster, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

3-20-2026
Christopher T. Antkoviak P59448
416 Hubbard Street
Allegan, MI 49010
(269)673-8468
Vicki Foster
1121 26th Street
Allegan, MI 49010
352-661-4043
4-2-26

NOTICE TO CREDITOR'S
TRUST ADMINISTRATION
TO ALL CREDITORS:

The Settlor, Richard J Adamczyk (DOB: 08/20/1927) died on Feb 24, 2026. There is no personal representative of the Settlor's estate to whom letters of administration have been issued.

Creditors of the decendant are notified that all claims against the Richard and Eileen Adamczyk Trust dated Oct 14, 1993, will be forever barred unless presented to Michael R Adamczyk/John A Adamczyk, Co-Trustees, at: 1825 135th Ave, Hopkins MI 49328, within four months after the date of publication.

Notice is further given that the Trust will thereafter be assigned and distributed to the persons entitled to it.

CO-TRUSTEES:
MICHAEL R ADAMCZYK/JOHN A ADAMCZYK
1825 135th Ave
Hopkins MI 49328
4-2-26

Be it known to all whom these presents may concern that Paul Christopher of the Merriweather family is a living and sentient man, a natural person in being, and has never been deceased, abandoned, absent, missing, or lawfully presumed dead. The said living man is herein beneficial owner (beneficiary) of his Estate.

Any presumption, classification, or record to the contrary is hereby rebutted, denied and placed on public notice for nullification, correction and clarification.

Dated: 3/31/2026
By: Paul Christopher Merriweather

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 26-66131- and JUDGE HON. JOLENE A. CLEARWATER
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of THOMAS EUGENE WIERSMA Date of Birth:*02/13/1
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, THOMAS EUGENE WIERSMA , died 01/02/20 .

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to EILEEN ANN WIERSMA , personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

EILEEN ANN WEIRSMA
297 DANBY CT
HOLLAND, MI 49423
616-994-2301

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: APOLLO JAMES CARTER has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026 AT 9:30 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: APOLLO JAMES CARTER to APOLLO JAMES GARCIA

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
TRUST ADMINISTRATION

The Joseph E. Gibson Trust dated February 4, 2015

TO ALL CREDITORS: *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Settlor Joseph E. Gibson, whose date of birth was December 1, 1951, died on February 27, 2026, and was a resident of 587 Spring Lane Drive, Holland, Michigan 49423.

Creditors ofthe decedent are notified that all claims against the trust estate will be forever barred unless presented to the named Trustee, Peter A. Poznak, c/o Poznak Dyer Kanar Schefsky Thompson PLC, at 143 McDonald Street, Midland, Michigan 48640, within four months after the date of publication of this notice.

March 27, 2026
Poznak Dyer Kanar Schefsky Thompson PLC
Wendy D. Kanar P59017
143 McDonald Street
Midland, MI 48640 (989) 832-1770

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Trust Estate
Decedent: KATHERINE T. COLLINS Date of Birth: July 24, 1943
TO ALL CREDITORS: *
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, KATHERINE T. COLLINS , who lived at 243 Wiley Road Douglas , Michigan 49406, died March 14, 2026 . There is no probate estate.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against KATHERINE T. COLLINS or THE KATHERINE T. COLLINS IRREVOCABLE TRUST dated March 26, 1980, as amended and restated in total on March 24, 1995, June 9, 2011, and September 13,

2024, will be forever barred unless presented to Nelle T. Averitt Somerville, the named successor trustee within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

March 26, 2026
Charles S. Ofstein P76256
DeMent and Marquardt, PLC
211 E. Water Street, Suite 401
Kalamazoo, MI 49007 (269) 343-2106
Nelle T. Averitt Somerville
3275 Greenspire Drive, Apt. 7
Portage, MI 49024 (269) 324-0761

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65531-DE and JUDGE Hon. Jolene A. Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Hugh Gregory Wood Date of Birth:*October 25, 1942
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Hugh Gregory Wood, died September 11, 2023.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Kelly Eding, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

March 4, 2026
Morgan Maul (P78445)
PO Box 263
Hamilton, MI 49419
(616) 202-2505
Kelly Eding
3534 142nd Avenue
Dorr MI 49323
(616) 890-0309

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-66028-DE and JUDGE JOLENE CLEARWATER
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of PATRICIA LOUISE GILLETTE Date of Birth:*02/23/1940
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, PATRICIA LOUISE GILLETTE, died June 7, 2025.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to JOEL LEE GILLETTE, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

03/25/2026
Daniel J. Goeman P64231
10500 Chicago Dr., Ste. 75
Zeeland, MI 49464
616-796-9400
Joel Lee Gillette
366 Lindy St., Apt. 1
Zeeland, MI 49464
616-321-1983

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-65766- and Judge Jolene Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Maria Antonio Malfeo Date of Birth:* 06/23/1933
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Maria Antonio Malfeo , died 12/16/2020.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Maria A. Frank, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Patricia C. Carpenter P67150
3073 W. John Beers Road
Stevensville, MI 49127 (269)469-9557
Maria R. Frank
5505 Hearthside Drive
Bourbonnais,IL 60914 (708)804-5611

DORR TOWNSHIP

MEETING SYNOPSIS
March 19, 2026, 7:00 pm

Board in Attendance: Miling, Champion, Sewers, Tuinstra, Reitz.
• Public Hearing -Budget Carried. 3,2
• Reports Heard: Police, Fire, Ambulance, Planning Commission, ZBA, Library and Parks, Legal aid Center, Community Action, Siver for Judge.
• Agenda/ Minutes Carried
• Invoices/Payroll Carried
• Voted On:
A. Appointments to the DDA Carried.
  i. Manju Maruliah
  ii. John Tuinstra
B. Receive And Ratify The 2026-2027 DDA Budget Carried.
---- Break (3 min)
C. Budget Amendments Carried.
D. Fire Chief's Appointments Carried.
E. Tax 3% Penalty Resolution Carried.
F. Impose the Property Tax Administration Fee Resolution Carried.
G. Administrative Fee added to All Permits No Action
H. Allocation of interest earned on Tax Fund Account Carried.
I. Appoint Trustee To Perform Additional Services No Action

Contact Clerk for Draft Minutes
Clerk@dorrtownship.org
Submitted by Debbie Sewers Clerk

NOTICE

OF PUBLIC HEARING
City of Allegan Property Sale

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the City Council of the City of Allegan, Michigan, shall on April 13, 2026, at 6:00 PM, at the City Council Chambers, Allegan City Hall 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, Michigan, hold a public hearing for the purpose of considering the sale of real property as follows:

Sale of the following property on North Street with a parcel number 51-280-018-00 to ND Community Partners:

Legal Description – E 138 FT OF LOT 10 MEAS ALG NORTH ST RUSSELL'S FRACTION.

At that time and place, the City Council shall hear and consider comments, concerns, statements, information, or other communications concerning the proposed property sale. Please send all written comments to the address listed below.

Carol Canales, Deputy Clerk
City of Allegan
231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan MI 49010
(269) 673-5511

NOTICE

Ordinance Enforcement Officer
Ganges Township

Ganges Township is seeking a dependable Ordinance Enforcement Officer to carry out and enforce local ordinances within the community. Responsibilities include:

• Investigating complaints
• Conducting site inspections
• Issuing notices of violation
• Preparing reports

This position is a part time position. Compensation will be discussed at time of hire.

To apply, submit a letter of interest along with any qualifications to Ganges Township at ganges-clerk@gmail.com or by mail to:

Ganges Township
1904 64th Street
Fennville, MI 49408
Letters accepted until April 23, 2026.

City of Allegan

Request for Proposals
Design Led Design-Build Services
Improvements to the First Floor
of the Griswold Auditorium

The City of Allegan is seeking proposals for Design Led Design-Build Services for Improvements to the First Floor of the Griswold Auditorium located at 401 Hubbard Street in the City of Allegan. Interested contractors shall present one (1) sealed bid to the City of Allegan, 231 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, MI by 12:00pm on May 1, 2026, at which time the bids will be opened. The scope of the project includes renovation of the first-floor lounge, the addition of an ADA Compliant Restroom and renovation of the first-floor office into a ticket taking office. The full and complete bid document can be found on the city website.

All bidders must attend a mandatory Pre-Proposal Meeting on Monday April 13, 2026, at 2:00 PM at the Griswold Auditorium.

The City shall reserve the right to accept, reject, modify, and/or amend bids if the City Council determines it to be in the best interest of the City. All questions should be directed to Parker Johnson, Assistant City Manager for the City of Allegan.

ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
COUNTY LOCAL ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Sealed bids will be received by the Allegan County Road Commission at their office at 1308 Lincoln Road (M-89), Allegan, Michigan until 11:00 A.M., Local Time, April 8, 2026, and, at such time, be publicly opened and read aloud for the following:

PROJECT NO. 400191 – 1.00 miles of roadway reconstruction including clearing, grade establishment, sand subbase, aggregate base, culvert replacements, and restoration on 132nd Avenue from 34th Street to 32nd Street in Monterey Township, Allegan County.

Complete specifications, plans, and bid forms are available at the Road Commission office and the Road Commission website www.alleganroads.org under the Projects link. When accessing plans from the website, please send an email to jkernodle@alleganroads.org to be added to the plan holders list.

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the Road Commission and sealed in envelopes with the name and address of the bidder, and the item bid upon clearly marked thereon.

A bid deposit of at least 5% of the bid amount will be required for this item. The bid deposit may be in the form of certified check, cashier's check or bid bond.

The Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to accept the bid that is deemed to be in the best interest of the County of Allegan.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Larry Brown, Chairman
Rick Cain, Vice-Chairman
Harold Hamlin, Member

ALLEGAN COUNTY ROAD COMMISSION

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
COUNTY LOCAL ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Sealed bids will be received by the Allegan County Road Commission at their office at 1308 Lincoln Road (M-89), Allegan, Michigan until 11:00 A.M., Local Time, April 15, 2026, and, at such time, be publicly opened and read aloud for the following:

PROJECT NO. 400240 – 1.75 miles of roadway reconstruction including clearing, grade establishment, sand subbase, aggregate base, culvert replacements, and restoration on 24th Street from M-89 to 114th Avenue in Trowbridge, Otsego, Allegan, & Watson Townships, Allegan County.

Complete specifications, plans, and bid forms are available at the Road Commission office and the Road Commission website www.alleganroads.org under the Projects link. When accessing plans from the website, please send an email to jkernodle@alleganroads.org to be added to the plan holders list.

All bids must be submitted on forms furnished by the Road Commission and sealed in envelopes with the name and address of the bidder, and the item bid upon clearly marked thereon.

A bid deposit of at least 5% of the bid amount will be required for this item. The bid deposit may be in the form of certified check, cashier's check or bid bond.

The Commission reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive minor technicalities, and to accept the bid that is deemed to be in the best interest of the County of Allegan.

BOARD OF COUNTY ROAD COMMISSIONERS OF ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

Larry Brown, Chairman
Rick Cain, Vice-Chairman
Harold Hamlin, Member

Allegan County Road Commission to build new garage

By John Raffel
Correspondent

ALLEGAN — Former county commissioner James Storey reports that the Allegan County Road Commission (ACRC) has approved construction of a replacement maintenance garage at its Shelbyville site.

Storey said the new building will replace a structure constructed in 1977 of 9,600 square feet including office space and restrooms.

"As our road maintenance trucks have increased in size, we've been limited on the equipment we can locate there as there is no room to store them," explained ACRC Manage Director Craig Awood told Storey, who added, the new maintenance garage will be 27,317 square feet. "In addition, plans call for an office and storage area of 2,100 square feet. The increased size of the garage will allow us to safely park our trucks and other equipment inside that is needed for the road district the garage covers.

"The new garage also includes a dedicated wash bay and service area with an inground hoist.," Atwood explained. The Commission has been saving funds for the new building since 2017 and will not need added millage or bonding to fund the $5.9 million needed for the new facility…"

New millage or bonding is often used by other local governments for building projects. The architect-engineer estimate for the building was $7.8 million.

The Allegan County Road Commission (ACRC) has approved construction of a replacement maintenance garage at its Shelbyville site.

Atwood noted ACRC received 13 bid submissions from contractors, the most its architect had ever experienced. Construction will start in a few weeks and will not interfere with continued use of the current garage, which will be removed when no longer needed.

The move into the new facility is expected in December with final completion in early 2027. The Shelbyville Road Commission yard is located at 2594 12th Street. In addition to Shelbyville, the road commission operates maintenance garages in Allegan, Fennville, and Diamond Springs.

Faces in the crowd

This week's question: What smell or aroma puts a smile on your face?

-Man near the Fennville hardware store: "This'll be an odd one, maybe. Nothing I like better than the smell of my garden when I till it the first time in the spring. Love that fresh dirt."

-Couple, same location; Woman, "I love the smell when you've cut the grass." Man, "Well, if you'd like to mow it, then you could get it up closer." Woman again, "No, no I don't think so. I'd have to smell the exhaust from the mower. It's much better when you do it." Both laugh.

-Young girl with mother, Fennville grocery store: "I like the smell of Gran's chocolate cookies. Oh! And her perfume. And she gives the best hugs, too."

-Older man in front of the Blue Goose: "You'll think I'm nuts, but whenever I smell cow manure it reminds me of growing up on the farm. I had cousins from the city and they'd come out for a visit. Now, they didn't like it but I told them it was the smell of money. They didn't agree." Laughs.

-Friend with him, "You ever get stuck behind a [manure] spreader on the road? You'll get plenty of smells to last a lifetime!"

-Man near the Old Jail Museum in Allegan: "You know something? I like to pull into the parking lot at the Village Inn and smell the fryer smoke. Good cooking awaits!"

-Woman near the Allegan County Court House: "The smell of old books in a library. If they could bottle that…."

-Man, same location, "My wife's perfume. She liked Shalizar, or something like that. I'd come in the house and…." [We'll leave it there since this is a family newspaper.]

-Couple near the Post Office: Man, "We used to go to a church where the men's prayer group put on Swiss steak dinners. I don't know if they still do it or not." Woman: "I love the smell when I'm pealing an orange. It's so fresh and makes me smile."

-Young woman near the Allegan City Hall: "My grandfather's pipe. I'd go to his place on Sunday afternoons and he'd be reading the newspaper, and there was that thin line of smoke going up. I think it was Prince Albert."

-Couple in front of Minnie's; Man, "Right here. You go in there and smell the food, and you know it's going to be good." Woman: "We used to go camping and what I really liked was when we'd have a campfire and you could smell the smoke on your clothes the next day."

-Woman near the Pizza Hut: "I love the smell of Tide laundry soap and the way my clothes and towels come out of the dryer. I just pull them out and hug and smell them."

-Middle aged man near the Wilcox Newspaper office: "Diesel engines. When I was a kid I always wanted to get on a cross country Jack Rabbit [bus]. Never did, but when I smell a diesel, that's what I think of. Next best thing was my dad's woodworking shop in the basement." A friend with him: "Yeah, boy. There is nothing better than walking through a lumber yard."

Public Notices

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE NOTICE Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under Section 3212 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 A.M., on May 7, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Elyse Suzanne Turley and Ronald Masters, wife and husband, ("Mortgagors"), gave a mortgage to Advia Credit Union, ("Mortgagee"), dated January 28, 2022, and recorded on February 2, 2022, in Liber 4726, on Page 322, Allegan County Records, Michigan. On the date of this notice, there is claimed to be due the principal of Thirty-Seven Thousand One Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars and 01/100 Dollars ($37,132.01) plus accrued interest at 9.250% per annum. Under the power of sale contained in said mortgage and the statute in such case made and provided, notice is hereby given that said mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at the place of holding in the circuit court within Allegan County, Michigan @ 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, May 7, 2026. Said premises are situated in the City of Otsego, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: Lots 8 and 9, Block D, HOMESTEAD ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF OTSEGO, as recorded in Liber 2, Page 22 of Plats, Allegan County Records. Commonly: 532 E Morell St., Otsego, MI 49078—Tax Id #54-454-009-00 The redemption period shall be six months from the date of such sale unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under Section 600.3278 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Dated: April 2, 2026 Advia Credit Union, Mortgagee Holzman Law, PLLC By: Charles J. Holzman Attorney for Mortgagee 28366 Franklin Road Southfield, Michigan 48034 (248)352-4340
(04-02)(04-30)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The deceased, Terence J. Arndt, a/k/a Terrence Arndt (DOB: 06/26/1956), who lived at 4185 24th Street, Dorr, Michigan 49323, died 12/28/2025. There is no personal representative of the settlor's estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued.
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against Terence J. Ardnt, a/k/a Terrence Ardnt, or Terence J. Ardnt's, a/k/a Terrence Ardnt, estate or trust, The Revoable Trust Agreement of Terence J. Ardnt, will be forever barred unless presented to the Trustee or the attorney within four (4) months after the date of this publication.
Dated: March 26th, 2026
ATTORNEY:
Steven M. Balkema, P83894
218 Maple Street Suite A
Big Rapids, Michigan 49307
TRUSTEE or PERSONAL REP:
Kenneth R. Ardnt
1168 Queener Lane
Princeton, Idaho 83857

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
ALLEGAN COUNTY
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate
CASE NO. 25-6855-DE and JUDGE Hon. Jolene A. Clearwater
Court address 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010
Court telephone no.(269) 673-0250
Estate of Eva Gayle Date of Birth:*10/26/1957
TO ALL CREDITORS: **
NOTICE TO CREDITORS: The decedent, Eva Gayle, died 6/28/2024 .
Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Vernon Scott Thompson , personal representative, or to both the probate court at 113 Chestnut Street, Allegan, MI 49010 and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.
3/24/26
Sharon L. McWhorter (46176)
Attorney name (type or print)
576 Romence Rd.
Portage, MI 49024
269-329-7950
Vernon Scott Thompson
7400 N. Indian Lake Drive
Scotts, MI 49088
269-760-5490

STATE OF MICHIGAN
JUDICIAL DISTRICT
57th JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
Allegan COUNTY
ORDER REGARDING
ALTERNATE SERVICE
CASE NO. 25-03866-SP and
JUDGE Judge: SKOCELAS
Plaintiff's name, address, and telephone no.
Maria McCartney Trustee of Integrity Solo 401K
c/o Plaintiff's Counse
Plaintiff's attorney, bar no., address, and telephone no.
SOTTILE AND BARILE, LLC
David C. Nalley (P82119), Franco Barile (P69468), & Anthony
Schievelbein (P88196),
394 Wards Corner Road, Suite 180, Loveland, OH 45140
440.572.1511 / foreclosure@sottileandbarile.com
v
Defendant's name, address, and telephone no.
Jeannette M. Meade
357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078
Nathan T. Clark
357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078
Unknown Occupant(s), if any
357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078
THE COURT FINDS:
1. Service of process upon the defendant, Nathan T. Clark, cannot reasonably be made as provided in MCR 2.107(B)(1)(b) and service of process may be made in a manner that is reasonably calculated to give the defendant actual notice of the proceedings and an opportunity to be heard.
IT IS ORDERED:
2. Service of the summons and complaint and a copy of this order shall be made by the following method(s).
a. 357 West Orleans Street, Ostego, MI 49078
d. Other: Publication in the Allegan County News for three consecutive weeks
/s/ Joseph Skocelas (P31714)
March 2, 2026
4-2 4-16

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF ALLEGAN
PUBLICATION OF NOTICE
In the matter of WILLIAM RICHARD VANDER WERF
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:*
whose address(es) are unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:
Children of Larry Vander Werf, deceased: Rick Vander Werf, Cindy Vonville, Patti Ferguson, Larry Vander Werf, and Scott Vander Werf
TAKE NOTICE:*
I, ELIZABETH TOLHURST, intend to request my informal appointment as personal representative of the estate of William
Richard Vader Werf, deceased. The actions you may take include:
• Upon paying a filing fee, filing a petition for formal proceedings to appoint a personal representative.
• Upon paying a filing fee, filing an application for informal appointment of yourself as personal representative provided you have a higher priority to be appointed.
• Contacting an attorney for assistance in representing you in any proceeding you wish to file in the court.
03/24/2026
Paul A. Ledford, Esq. P57542
Ledford & Associates,
3181 Prairie St., SW, Ste. 106
Grandville, MI 49418
616-0257-3300
Elizabeth Tolhurst
c/o Ledford & Associates, 3
181 Prairie St., SW, Ste. 106
Grandville, MI 49418
269-680-1911

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on May 7, 2026. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Peter J. Gavrun, surviving tenant, unmarried, whose address is 1091 Bridge Road, Allegan, Michigan 49010, as original Mortgagors, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, being a mortgage dated March 11, 2018, and recorded on April 6, 2018 in Liber 4234 Page 930, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated November 2, 2023 and recorded on November 2, 2023 in Liber 4899 Page 323, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of EIGHTY-TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY AND 58/100 DOLLARS ($82,270.58). Said premises are situated in the Township of Trowbridge, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: COMMENCING AT THE SOUTH 1/8 POST OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 4, TOWN 1 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, THENCE NORTH 00 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST ON THE NORTH AND SOUTH 1/8 LINE OF SAID SOUTHEAST 1/4 1710.00 FEET TO THE TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING OF THIS DESCRIPTION, THENCE CONTINUING NORTH 00 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST ON SAID 1/8 LINE 307.79 FEET, THENCE NORTH 88 DEGREES 43 MINUTES 00 SECONDS EAST 240.05 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 00 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST 313.17 FEET, THENCE SOUTH 90 DEGREES 00 MINUTES 00 SECONDS WEST 240.00 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING. Street Address: 1091 Bridge Road, Allegan, Michigan 49010 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: April 2, 2026 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490) Johnson, Blumberg & Associates LLC 30 North LaSalle St., Suite 3650 Chicago, Illinois, 60602 312.541.9710 - Phone 312.541.9711 - Fax File No.: MI 26 7088
(04-02)(04-23)

Notice
of Public Accuracy Test
For the May 4, 2026, Election
DORR TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, STATE OF MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE FOLLOWING JURSIDICTION:

The Public Accuracy Test for Hopkins Public School voters will be held at 9:00 am. on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at Dorr Township Hall, 1683 142nd Ave, Dorr, MI 49323.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to show that both the program and the tabulator intended to be used for counting election results have been properly set up according to legal requirements.

Dorr Township – Debbie Sewers – Clerk

Notice
of Public Accuracy Test
For the May 4, 2026, Election
HOPKINS TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF ALLEGAN, STATE OF MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE FOLLOWING JURSIDICTION:

The Public Accuracy Test for Hopkins Public School voters will be held at 1:30 pm. on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at Hopkins Township Hall, 142 W. Main St – Hopkins MI

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to show that both the program and the tabulator intended to be used for counting election results have been properly set up according to legal requirements.

Hopkins Township – Stacey Timmers – Clerk

CLASSIFIEDS

Misc.

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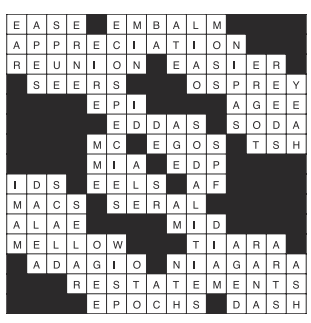

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9	7	6	4	8	3	5	2	1
8	2	5	9	7	1	6	4	3
4	1	3	5	6	2	9	8	7
1	3	9	7	5	4	8	6	2
7	4	2	6	3	8	1	9	5
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RELIGION SECTION

Jesus gives us a real challenge with his words recorded in Matthew 18:3 - 4. He tells us that we will never get into heaven unless we change and become like children. That sounds so very appealing, and yet at the same time, absolutely appalling as well as physically impossible.

I think many of us would like to go back to our own version of the good old days when we were younger. Then I remember Yogi Berra's statement, "Nostalgia ain't what it used to be!" Or, Studs Terkel's books about Chicago from the Great Depression, and the home front during WWII. The people he interviewed remembered the good times and how everyone seemed to pull together for a common cause. They forgot about the hunger, hopelessness, or telegrams from the War Department, fear, and so many other horrible things.

The past was not always as wonderful as we like to believe. Add to it, by now you and I have built our own structures such as emotional walls and barriers, to keep others from getting too close. We have learned how to navigate our way through the world, and the last thing any of us want is some sort of great upheaval that would create chaos.

This passage seemed impossible until I read about ancient Egyptian death rituals. They believed that when a person died their heart was put on one side of a balance scale. Opposite was a single feather. If their heart was heavier than a feather, well, no after-life for you!

When we think of a heavy heart, often it is in terms of sorrow, loss, disappointments from other people, disappointments in our own life, or the guilt of what we did or didn't do. Our sins of commission and omission are often the heaviest burdens.

A pagan culture or not, that gives some insight as to what Jesus meant in this passage in two separate but related areas. First, Jesus said that he had come that we might have life and have it abundantly. If our heart is pre-occupied with all of the negative stuff in our life there is not much room left for abundance. It means we can not fully experience God's kingdom in the hear and now.

Second, we know that when we confess our sins and shortcomings, and fully intend to change our way of thinking, speaking, and living, God forgives them. We are free of the burden, and free to become new people. We do not have to continue asking forgiveness for what God has already forgiven.

The passage is indeed a challenge because it requires faith to believe we are forgiven and will be welcomed into heaven. We are forgiven, and can live an abundant and joyous life right now.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomin gdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)
4219 Parklane, Dorr
www.epiphanydorr.org
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m., Bible Study and Sunday School following

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
10:00 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Ganges United Methodist Church
2218 68th St
Fennville MI 49408
Phone 269-543-3581
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
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Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
532 M 89, Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell Church of Christ
911 James St.
Plainwell, Michigan 49080

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

UniPac "Contract Packaging Specialist"
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269-673-8488

RAPA Rapa Electric, Inc.
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673-3155/673-3157

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3169 Babylon Rd., Allegan
673-6352

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